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"Sai On" Enquiry Continues Passengers Tell Their Stories

Continuing its investigation into the "Sai On" tragedy, the Marine Court of Enquiry, at its second session yesterday, heard the evidence of passenger witnesses of the fire as well as two Indian watchmen who were on duty.

Tam Huen, with his head and left hand bandaged, said he was a passenger on board the ship and occupied a position on the wooden platform on top of the cargo, to the port side of the cooked rice stall. His wife had climbed up on the platform when he suddenly saw a glare as if something had caught fire.

It was a red glow of the size she first saw the fire broke out. Someone shifted the table and was near the wooden counter. He did not notice any conking stove being used, and did not know what was burning, his view being obstructed by some people in front of him. Then there was a 'pop' sound as if the fire had ignited something else, and the fire spread rapidly. Within five minutes he and his wife had made for the No. 4 cargo port which was congested with people trying to get to the wharf. He was trampled down and burnt in the confusion.

He agreed that if passengers had made for this exit right away without waiting to pick up their belongings more would have been saved, though many could never have escaped especially the women and children.

When he first saw the glare it was by the side of a table locker near the counter, which could have been a passenger's baggage. People trying to put out the fire with blankets moved this table aside. Fanned by the wind the flame spread to port and aft. He did not notice anybody smoking on board.

Hair Singed

Next witness was a young married woman named Chan Ngai, another passenger, who said she boarded the vessel with her husband shortly after 4 a.m. and was directed to a position behind the ice box near the cooked rice stall. She noticed a small wooden table near this stall, close to which

with her husband to No. 4 cargo port, but it was jammed with people. The flame had reached this port, and she saw people driven aft by the fire. Fanned by the wind the fire spread rapidly to the stern.

She jumped into the harbour from No. 4 cargo port, but her husband was lost in the fire. Ram Singh, a watchman employed on the "Sai On", said he was on the wharf and did not see the fire break out. When he heard shouts of fire he ran in to the ship through No. 4 cargo port, and saw the deck burning to his right hand side. There was a chatter about two feet from the ship's side, but it was not lit. Some oil, which he believed to be peanut oil, was burning on the deck. He noticed some drums but could not say what they contained. There was no smell of petrol. He remained on the ship for only two minutes.

Oil Burning

Thakar Singh, another Indian watchman, said he was also on the wharf when the fire broke out and, like the previous witness, rushed back to the ship through No. 4 cargo port when he heard the commotion. He saw oil burning on the deck, and some Chinese were trying to put out the fire with old clothes. He also noticed the chatter by the side of the ship but it was not lit. The fire spread to some paper among the cargo. He remained on board four minutes and escaped back to the wharf.

The last witness was another passenger, Lam Yuen, who had his head and both hands heavily bandaged. He said he took up a position in the centre of the deck opposite No. 4 cargo port, and saw the fire in the passage way in the proximity of the stairway to starboard. He did not see the fire break out. It was first a small heap of fire. He did not see what was burning, nor the colour of the flame, and there were no sparks. There was a wooden keg nearby. He rushed to No. 4 cargo port. His wife was in the water and in trying to pull her up, he was dragged down, but both were eventually saved.

He had not noticed anyone smoking, nor anyone striking a match, and he had seen no oil. The Court then adjourned to 10 a.m. on Monday.

Ball Of Fire

The place was ill lighted and when she first saw a ball of fire a few feet from the cargo port, she thought it was paper burning. When she took another look the ball of fire appeared to burst, and the fire spread rapidly. The colour of the flame was blue and green, and sometimes white, and sparks shot up to the ceiling and in all directions. She was about thirty feet from where the fire broke out.

She jumped on the deck, picked up her nephew, and ran

Readers' Letters

Business Tax

Sir,—I wish to compliment Flat Justitia on his clearcut suggestions for balancing the Budget and Government would do well to invite him to attend at conferences dealing with this "burning question."

I think I voice the view of all loyal residents of Hong Kong when I say that we are fully prepared to contribute our full share by way of taxes to enable Government to balance the budget but let the method be a fair one by which all who chose to make use of Hong Kong as a place to earn their living, pay up.

There are too many loopholes in a "business profit tax" which summed up in a nutshell means that all British and Foreign firms will pay, other registered firms with Chinese capital will also pay but the majority of Chinese "hongs" might find a way out not to pay their just dues.

The suggestion of a Government Lottery run on somewhat similar lines as the former International Saving Society should be practical and most beneficial from the point of view of revenue earning but I believe to do this new legislation must first be passed, but this should not be unworkable.

By bringing about a Poll Tax accompanied by the issue of identification cards to all residents the Police Authorities will have a better check on undesirable elements and automatically beggars will not be so prominent.

Of all the suggestions made by Flat Justitia the Sales Tax I feel will bring in more revenue than any scheme of tax on "business profit" or "tax on salaries" and the public as a whole will not be dissatisfied.

A levy of any 1/4% for revenue stamps on all receipts issued is another good idea which will bring in much needed money to Government's coffers.

RIGOR MORTIS.

M.O.s.

Sir,—I reiterate to Anti-Humburg the statement supported by facts in my first letter that the training and standard of Hong Kong medical graduates are not inferior to those of European M.O.s who are trained mainly in the United Kingdom. Not all the medical schools in the U.K. have the same standard; some are better than others, but the local standard must be equal to the average in the United Kingdom otherwise the General Medical Council, England, would not have recognised the local degree and the medical schools in U.K. would not have allowed the graduates to take post graduate studies there.

Anti-Humburg might have missed what the Vice-Chancellor of the H.K. University said that "While recognising our limitations in the matter of post-graduate training, we make no apology for the quality of what has been achieved in the training of undergraduates." The V.C. further stated that "Nevertheless, it would be contrary to all experience to maintain that the product of the better equipped professional or technical school is inevitably and in all cases better than the man from the less well equipped." It is obvious that the G.M.C. representative must have found that the equipment of the local medical school to be satisfactory for all practical purposes.

Anti-Humburg admits that the clinical material in H.K. is unlimited, therefore the graduates have more chance to learn and gain more experience in diagnosis in the important study of tropical diseases on the spot than in the U.K. Before the war many European M.O.s with only the M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P., or the M.B. Ch. B. joined the Colonial Service, and some of them are still serving in the service with no extra degrees. Therefore Anti-Humburg is wrong again to state that they had no chance of appointment in the Colonial Service. And yet, I

reiterate, they are paid very much more!

The majority of Hong Kong graduates can afford 3rd class tickets, but the difficulty is "the financial barrier" of staying a year or two in the U.K. for post graduate studies.

No-one belittles the medical schools in the U.K. On the contrary, a good many of the poorer local graduates look forward to gaining scholarships for post graduate studies in Britain while the many who could afford it have gone and "have done credit to their training in H.K."

It is most refreshing to hear even from Anti-Humburg that no one would begrudge the local appointees their promotion. Is it not high time that an enlightened Government policy "that gives the local graduates an opportunity to demonstrate their quality" be put into effect? ANTI-PREJUDICE

Classical Requests

Sir,—I would like to bring to your notice and to the listeners of "The Classical Request Programme" broadcast from Z.B.V. (Radio) that in my opinion there appears to be far too much time wasted on certain pieces of music. For instance, on Wednesday last the 12th Feb. one request occupied approximately forty minutes thus leaving only twenty minutes for the remainder. I wonder whether or not those listeners, making requests for long symphonic pieces, consider the other listener who may wait a few weeks for his request to be played owing to such a wastage of time spent over these pieces. I am very fond of music myself but I would suggest that all requests are confined to fifteen minutes or so as a maximum and thus be quite fair to all listeners.

In the past the Classical Request Programme was a really enjoyable hour, for in those days it was usual for the main movements only of a long piece of music to be played instead of occupying the greater part of a short programme.

STILL WAITING.

Price Control Additions

The following additions and amendments to the Price Control schedule were gazetted yesterday:

Cigarettes Maximum Retail Price.

Cavenders (Magnums Plain) (per pkt. of 10) HK\$0.40

Federal (per pkt. of 10) 40

Motor Vehicles.

Studebaker Commander Regal Deluxe 5 passenger Coupe (each) HK\$12,250.00

Watsley 8 h.p. (each) 7,800.00

Scap. Toilet, made in China (per tablet) HK\$1.50

The following items are detailed:—

Cigarettes Maximum Retail Price.

Abdulla Imperial Preference (per pkt. of 10) HK\$0.40

Abdulla Imperial Preference (per tin of 50) 2.20

Glass—10. oz. (per sq. ft.) HK\$0.55

and substituted by the following:—

Cigarettes Maximum Retail Price.

Abdulla Imperial Preference (Magnum size) (per pkt. of 10) HK\$0.50

Abdulla Imperial Preference (Magnum size) (per tin of 50) 2.30

Abdulla Imperial Preference (Standard size) (per pkt. of 10) 40

Abdulla Imperial Preference (Standard size) (per tin of 50) 2.00

Glass.

18 oz. quality and under, when uncut (per sq. ft.) HK\$0.55

18 oz. quality and under, when cut (per sq. ft.) 40

Over 18 oz. quality and up to and including 24 oz. quality, when uncut (per sq. ft.) 95

Over 18 oz. quality and up to and including 24 oz. quality, when cut (per sq. ft.) 140

Insufficient Reason For Dismissal

At the conclusion of yesterday's resumed hearing at the Supreme Court, Mr. Justice Gould awarded \$211.50 to Lo Chiu, printer, of No. 39, Connaught Road, Central, who instituted legal proceedings against his former employer, Chan Shiu-man, manager and partner of the Kinson Printing Press, No. 7, Si Hong Lane, for back wages and allowances amounting to \$399.50, plus costs.

Lo claimed payment from Chan of one month's wages, \$140, in lieu of notice; of seven days' wages, \$31.50, allegedly due him; of one month's boarding allowance, \$60; and of overtime pay for 38 Sundays, \$168, bringing the total to \$399.50.

Called as witness for Chan yesterday, the manager of another printing press in Shamshuipo, said that according to regulations of the printers' union, inkis should work 56 hours per week. If inkis worked eight hours a day, then they were not entitled to have Sundays off, the witness added.

Giving judgment, His Lordship said that he was satisfied that Chan had not sufficient reason to dismiss Lo.

Continuing, Mr. Justice Gould said that he was also satisfied with Chan's version that Lo's pay was \$120 a month. His Lordship ordered Chan to pay Lo one month's wages, \$120, in lieu of notice, one month's boarding allowance, \$60; and seven days' wages, \$31.50, due to him, amounting to \$211.50, plus costs.

A concert of recorded music will be presented at Talbot House (Tee H.), 50, Macdonnell Road, at 8.30 p.m. today. The programme, consisting mainly of works by Russian composers, will include the following:—

Overture "The Thieving Magpie" by Rossini, "Prince Igor" Dances by Borodin and Rimsky-Korsakov, La Boutique Fantasque by Ravel, and Scheherazade by Rimsky-Korsakov.

Military Compensate Landlord

The Military Authorities have agreed to compensate the landlord of 312 Nathan Road, Mr. Charles Chan, for the cost of repairs to the verandah stanchions which were damaged by a 15-cwt. weapons-carrier at 2.30 a.m. on Feb. 8. It was learned yesterday.

It was further learned that compensation, covering rental and employees' salaries for the three or four days during which the store was forced to suspend business, will be paid to the Golden Star & Co., occupiers of the ground floor.

It will be recalled that as the result of the accident, SQM Harris of the Royal Army Ordnance Corp was killed while SQM Smith, also of the R.A.O.C., was seriously injured.

Money Market

Chinese National Currency was steady yesterday and rates showed an improvement on the previous day's quotations. Futures rose from 38 cents to 42 cents for CNY\$1,000. Spot closed at 32 cents.

The drop in gold price was also checked. Opening at \$222 a tael it closed at \$223.75, though at one stage it had dropped to \$226. Pinsters fluctuated between \$11.85 and \$12.42 per 100. The former was the opening rate. The market closed at \$12.20.

U.S. dollars were unchanged at \$4.93. Sterling was stronger at \$15.20; and Australian pounds unchanged at \$12.55.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Peninsula Hotel arrivals:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Mitchell, A.C. Meyer, W. Knyland, P. Lamprecht, D.S. Doyle, Brit. W.G. Hamilton, T.H. Law, C.F. Lambert, W. Glover, E.E. Rivers and M. Fernan.

Peninsula departures:—Miss N. C. Young, W.G. Holliday, L. Cook, Miss L. Armstrong, Miss C.E. Howard, Mrs. E.S. Bernard, L.H. Davis and Maj. H.L. Farmer.

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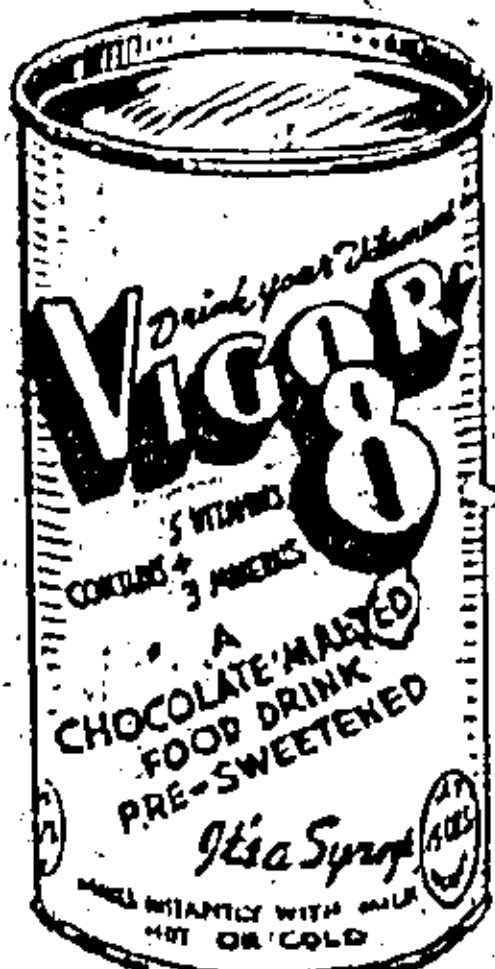
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Everyone Took A Serious View

When seven Chinese female employees of the Kowloon Naval Dockyard vouching for each other pleaded guilty before Mr. Latimer to a charge of larceny, S.I. Askew informed the Court that a very serious view of the case as this sort of larceny had been going on for months.

On being searched as they were leaving the Dockyard after work, said S.I. Askew, a Larkman, married woman, was found to have on her person one pair of stockings and a pullover; Lung Su-cheng, married woman, Ng Sau-king, spinster, and Wu Chun, spinster, were each wearing the two pairs of underpants; Li Sau-wah, spinster, had on her three pairs of underpants, while Yan Chun, married woman, and Kwan Lam-mui, widow, each were in possession of a pair of stockings.

Sending that he also took a serious view of the case, His Lordship fined each defendant \$50.

HENNESSY'S HERE!

Now in Hong Kong for a short visit as part of his inspection tour of representative firms in the Far East is the Hon. Mr. Frederick Hennessy, head of the big brandy firm.

Mr. Hennessy arrived here on Friday from England by E.A.C. flying boat. While in Hong Kong, he will stay with Mr. Pollock of Jardine, Matheson & Co.

A cocktail party has been arranged in the Kam Ling Restaurant on Wednesday next and invitations have been issued to 150 guests including Government officials, prominent bankers, and Chinese business men.

For snatching a camera from Lt. S. Horton of the U.S. Navy in Des Voeux Road Central on Friday to four months imprisonment by day, Ng Yee-kau was sentenced to four months imprisonment by Mr. Sainsbury at Central yesterday.

NOMA TOLD HIM HE WANTED POPULATION CONTENTED

Testifying before No. 7 War Crimes Court yesterday, Mr. R. S. Smith, Assistant Crown Solicitor, said that Colonel Noma had told him that the people of Hong Kong, having enjoyed the benefits of British rule, would not respond to methods adopted by the Japanese Gendarmerie in other occupied territory.

Mr. Smith also said that Noma told him that the Japanese intended to use Hong Kong as a base for operations in the Pacific and that it was necessary to have a contented population rather than a turbulent population bent on sabotaging the Army's lines of communication.

Mr. Smith said the first met Colonel Noma about a week after his arrival, but could not remember the date. After that, he had many interviews with him regarding quinquins and collaborators in Hong Kong during the occupation. At these interviews, conversations took place regarding tortures.

On two occasions, Major Shiozawa and Major Hirao were present. Both said that they made no report at any time to Noma regarding tortures. In the case of Shiozawa, he said he had deliberately concealed from Noma many things that happened. Hirao said that he made no report to Noma at any time regarding tortures.

Mr. Smith said that Noma also told him that during the assault on the Island, his Battle Headquarters were at North Point to which a party of British people came. As the Japanese attack had reached its maximum and they had failed to take the Island, the Operational Commander was going to launch a new air assault, Noma said that he then allowed Messrs. Shields and Manners to go through the Japanese lines on a peace mission to save the City of Victoria from complete destruction by aerial bombardment.

Contempt For Noma

Mr. Smith said that in the beginning, he found Noma in a very bad physical and mental condition.

Cross-examined, Mr. Smith said that Hirao admitted discovering, by means of "spot inspections," isolated cases of torture, but suspected that there were many other cases.

Shiozawa told Mr. Smith that he felt a certain amount of contempt for Noma, who was that type of schoolmaster who ought not to know too much about the matters of the Gendarmerie.

Shiozawa said that the only thing for the people was the iron hand and that was the policy he had learned in Manchuria and which he pursued here. He was afraid that Noma would punish him for carrying out this policy and that was one of the reasons why he felt contempt for him. Mr. Smith said that Shiozawa was quite cynical about the matter and said he was prepared to die. Shiozawa admitted that he was aware of and countenanced tortures in Kowloon. He said that Noma frequently asked him if he was sure that nothing was going on and that if it was, it must be stopped.

Mr. Smith said that when he first met Noma, the latter was glassy-eyed, dazed and incoherent and repeatedly muttered: "I told them not to torture people—I told them not to keep people in custody for more than 24 hours."

Winning People's Minds

Noma had said that it was not his policy to conduct the Gendarmerie in Hong Kong on the same lines as the Japanese Gendarmerie in other occupied territory were conducted, as the people of Hong Kong, having enjoyed the benefits of British rule, would not respond

to such methods. Noma said that he wanted to win the minds of the people by propaganda, rather than by force. Furthermore, it was the intention of the Japanese to use Hong Kong as a base for operations in the Pacific war. Noma therefore wanted to have a contented population, which would take fewer tortures to control, than to have a turbulent population sabotaging the Army's lines of communication.

Mr. Smith said that he did not think any love was lost between Shiozawa and Noma. Concluding, Mr. Smith said that when he first met Noma, he thought the man's sanity was in danger, but about April 1946, he began to show signs of improvement and started to remember names of prominent people and could identify photographs. He also gave evidence against a woman informer, who was sentenced to one day's imprisonment at the Criminal Sessions and could remember the

names of the individuals for whom she worked.

Captain Shibata Shigeo, one of the accused who is appearing before No. 5 War Crimes Court, said that Noma instructed his subordinates to be kind and honest and to do anything so as to bring about good results.

In regard to interrogations, they were instructed to act always in accordance with the law. Noma was a strict man and always punished his subordinates if they disobeyed orders.

Shibata then told the Court of two cases in which Gendarmerie personnel were sentenced to imprisonment when found guilty by a Court Martial of having intimidated and threatened civilians. Shibata said that he himself had been sentenced to seven days' confinement for laxity in the supervision of subordinates.

Hearing was adjourned till 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Stag Hotel Appeal

The legal dispute between seven partners of the Stag Hotel, 148-50 Queen's Road, Central, over the management of the establishment pending the hearing of the appellants' claim for dissolution of partnership, came to an end yesterday when Sir Henry Blackall (Chief Justice) and Mr. Justice T. J. Gould in the Full Court of Appeal delivered written judgment in favour of the appellants.

This was the sequel to an appeal lodged by five of the seven partners against a decision, rendered earlier by Mr. Justice E. H. Williams, Puisne Judge, in Chambers, rejecting the appellants' application for the appointment of a receiver.

Appellants were Li Tze-chiu, Li Kiu-po, Ho Chun-suen, Wong Chan-shi and Tong King-fong; while respondents were Ngai Chuk-kam and Kwan Chi-ping.

Mr. B. A. Bernacchi, instructed by Mr. M. A. da Silva, represented the appellants, while Mr. Leo d'Almada e Castro, instructed by Mr. C. S. Ford, appeared for the respondents.

Delivering judgment, their Lordships said: "This is an appeal against the decision of Williams J., refusing an application for the appointment of a receiver pending the hearing of the appellants' claim for dissolution of partnership."

And the minutes produced by the respondent disclose that both old and new shares are entitled to the same benefit without distinction as to whether they were old or new (vide Para. 10 of minutes of 5th April, 1946). It is clear, therefore, that whatever the nature of the re-organisation, the nature of the original partnership may have been, at least three of the appellants and the first respondent are members of the partnership which the appellants are seeking to dissolve.

The precise character and extent of the re-organisation may be a substantial issue so far as the appellants and the respondents are concerned and may be material in the settling of accounts, but it cannot affect the right of the acknowledged partners to dissolve a partnership at will and, as this Court is satisfied that the partnership is one of that character, it follows that the appellants should have been granted it. The appeal is therefore allowed with costs.

"As to this, any member of a partnership, the duration of which is undefined, has a right, subject to any agreement between the parties, to dissolve it at any moment he pleases, and the issue of the writ in O.J. of 1946 plainly indicates a desire on the part of those partners who are plaintiffs in that action, to wind up the concern, and there is nothing before the Court to show that the partnership, or (if there were two) either partnership, was other than a partnership at will. It was indeed suggested, somewhat tentatively, by Mr. d'Almada that it might transpire in subsequent proceedings that it was agreed that the alleged Hop Kee partnership should be for a term which has not yet expired. But if there was such a term, its existence would be known to the present defendants and hence

REVENUE DEPT.'S LOSS

A white canvas hood valued at \$200 was stolen from the Austin Utility van of the Revenue Department between 10 p.m. on Friday and 1 a.m. yesterday. The van was parked outside the Fire Brigade Building in Connaught Road Central at the offices of the Import and Export Department. There were two revenue officers and a constable on duty near by.

APPOINTED

The following appointments etc. were gazetted yesterday:— Miss Maud Ward to be a member of the Nurses' Board; Miss Lau Mei-yuk.

Mr. J. Hargreaves to act as Treasury Inspector in the absence of Mr. A. J. C. Taylor.

Mr. Sompong Bunnag, appointed Siam Government Trade Commissioner in Hong Kong.

PORTUGUESE REMANDED

Victor Edward de Faria Neves, 21, Portuguese, of 153 Prince Edward Road, was remanded three days in Police custody when he pleaded not guilty to having stolen the roof of a Chatham Road at 2.50 p.m. on Feb. 14 with intent to commit a felony, when he appeared before Mr. Latimer yesterday.

S.I. Askew, prosecuting, stated that he accused said in his statement in answer to the charge: "I wish to get a solicitor," and as he was not in a position to do so himself, it would be in his interests if he were remanded in order that the Police might communicate with his father.

In Brief

Sheet glass of all kinds has been added to the list of goods prohibited for export.

Government is calling for tenders for minor repairs to the Central British School and for general repairs to the Ellis Kadoorie School.

L/Cpl. John William Perry, of 45 R.M. Commando, was married to Miss Lily Lee, of 300 Sai Yeung Choi Street, at the Registry yesterday by Mr. J. M. Hall, Deputy Registrar.

Believed to be the last of the opium on s.s. Barton Renfrew, another 105 tons were ordered to be confiscated by Mr. F. X. d'Almada at Central yesterday.

On Tuesday, the Rotary Club of Hong Kong will be addressed by Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, KCB, CBE, DSC, on the subject of "Naval Aviation."

The meeting will take place at 12.30 p.m. as usual at the Gloucester Hotel.

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

It is hereby notified that the following Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction will be held at the Office of the Public Works Department, Lower Albert Road, on Monday, the 17th day of February, 1947, at 3 p.m.

Sale Conditions may be obtained and sale plan inspected at the Office of the Superintendent of Crown Lands & Surveys, Lower Albert Road.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Location	Boundaries	Area in sq. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
1	Kowloon Island Lot No. 6002	Tsai Heung Road	As per Sale Plan	1,240 (about)	\$46	\$8,520

Immediately after the fall of the hammer, the purchaser shall according to the Conditions of Sale pay to the Auctioneer in cash the sum of \$744.00.

V. KENNIF, Director of Public Works.

7th February, 1947.

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POST OFFICE NOTICES

Outward Mails

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Post close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below:—

SUNDAY, FEB. 16

Macau, Tientsin and Shekhi 10 a.m.
Kowloon 10 a.m.
Canton 10 a.m.
Amoy 10 a.m.

Airmail for Canton, Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin and Peking (Reg.) 5 p.m. 19/2 (Ord.) 10 a.m. 19/2.

Monday, Feb. 17
Tientsin (Kowloon) 10 a.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa 11 a.m.

Swatow and Amoy 2 p.m.
Shanghai 2 p.m.
Straits 3 p.m.
Malta, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa 3 p.m.

Macau, Tientsin and Shekhi 3 p.m.
USA, Central and South America and Canada via San Francisco, Kowloon C.P.O. (Par. and Reg.) 2 p.m. (Ord.) 2.30 p.m.; G.P.O. (Par. and Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.

Kowloon 4 p.m.
Airmail for Bangkok, Calcutta, Delhi, Johannesburg and Cairo, Kowloon C.P.O. (Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.; G.P.O. (Reg.) 2 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

Airmail for Canton, Amoy, Fookchow and Shanghai (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 18

Airmail for Manila (Reg.) 9.30 a.m. (Ord.) 10 a.m.

Manila P.I. 10 a.m.
Straits and Penang 10 a.m.
Straits and Penang 10 a.m.

Formosa via Kowloon 10 a.m.
Batavia Noon.
Shanghai 2 p.m.

Manila P.I. 2 p.m.
Macau, Tientsin and Shekhi 3 p.m.
Canton (By Train) 4 p.m.

Airmail for Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Sydney, Auckland and London (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

Airmail for Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin and Peking (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 19
Shanghai 10 a.m.

Macau, Tientsin and Shekhi 3 p.m.
Australia via Sydney (Par. and Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.

Formosa and Canada via Vancouver 3 p.m. (Par. and Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.

Airmail for Bangkok, Calcutta, Delhi, Johannesburg and Cairo (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

Kowloon 4 p.m.
Canton (By Train) 4 p.m.

NOTICE

I have been requested by all Shipping Lines, operating in the Far East Freight Conference, to warn Consignees that notice to the Shipping Companies concerned in respect of irregularities such as pilferage and loss is not reported in many cases until days and even weeks have elapsed.

"It is imperative that immediate notice be given in respect of any such irregularities in order that investigations can be made with the least possible delay. It is pointed out further that failure to report immediately might affect claims against Steamship Companies."

J. D. ALEXANDER
Local Chairman
Far Eastern Freight Conference.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

It is hereby notified that the following Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction will be held at the Office of the Public Works Department, Lower Albert Road, on Monday, the 17th day of February, 1947, at 3 p.m.

Sale Conditions may be obtained and sale plan inspected at the Office of the Superintendent of Crown Lands & Surveys, Lower Albert Road.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Location	Boundaries	Area in sq. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
1	Kowloon Island Lot No. 6002	Tsai Heung Road	As per Sale Plan	1,240 (about)	\$46	\$8,520

Immediately after the fall of the hammer, the purchaser shall according to the Conditions of Sale pay to the Auctioneer in cash the sum of \$744.00.

V. KENNIF, Director of Public Works.

7th February, 1947.

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FOR SALE—New 60-piece Commemorative plate table silver. Phone 24854.

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PEDRO'S DANCE COURSE produces the best results as evidenced by the numerous complimentary letters from past pupils. Learn dancing under PEDRO'S SYSTEM, well-known for its effectiveness, efficiency and thoroughness. 116 Caine Road, (2-6 p.m.).

POSITION VACANT

RADIO OPERATOR

Position vacant with Cathay Pacific Airways for a Radio Operator. First class P.M.G. licence necessary. Apply Cathay Pacific Airways Prince's Building, Hongkong.

Beten's Beauty Salons

You can trust your personal Beauty Problems—your Permanent Waves, Shampoo, Sets, Tinting, Facials, Manicure, Pedicure to Beten's expert operators (1st floor) above Lane Crawford's. Tel. 28163.

REWARD

A reward of \$200.00 will be paid for the recovery and return in good condition to the Director of Public Works of any bound sets of plans of Kowloon and New Kowloon containing some 14 to 16 sheets of drawing to a scale of 200 feet to one inch, and showing thereon approved levels at street intersections.

Notice to Consignees

IVARAN LINES FAR EASTERN SERVICE

M/S "REINHOLD"

Having arrived Hongkong consignees of cargo are hereby notified that all goods have been landed and placed at their risk and expense into the godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd. where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

No claims will be admitted

after the goods have left the godowns.

All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the godown where they will be examined in the presence of Messrs. Goddard and Douglas on the 17th Feb. at 10 a.m.

To comply with the General



NEXT FLIGHT

HONG KONG TO BANGKOK SATURDAY 15th, Feb.
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For Passage and Freight apply to—

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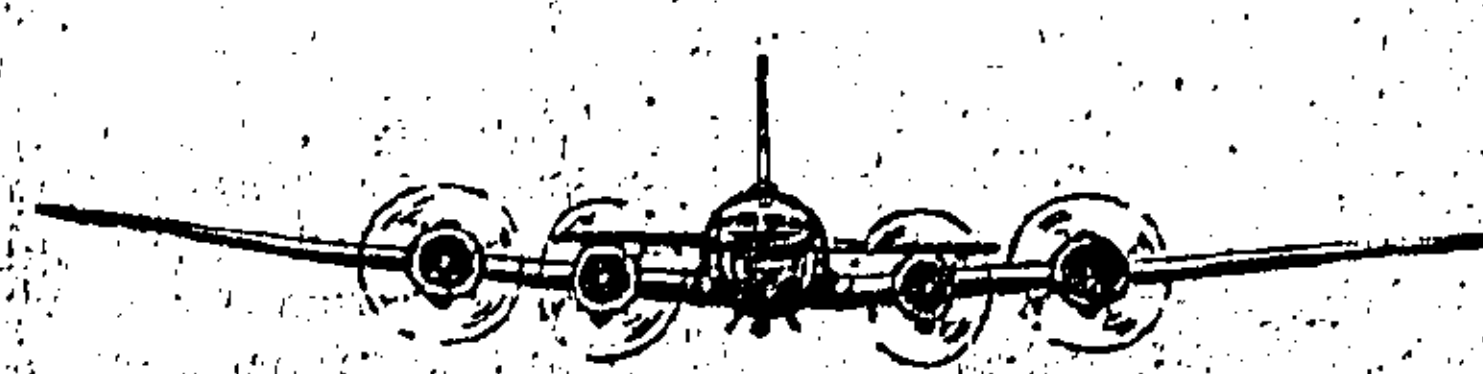
AMOI	HK\$2.50 per kilo
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BIRTH

ZIMMERN—At French Hospital, on 15th February, 1947, to Doris, wife of Frederick Zimmern, a son.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

MRS. NINA SMIRNOFF and family wish to express grateful acknowledgment of all expressions and tokens of sympathy extended to them in their recent bereavement.

INCOME TAX ALTERNATIVES

The search for alternatives to Income Tax which is now going on in correspondence columns and public discussion is primarily symptomatic of the widespread conviction that Government is not in a position to ensure equitable distribution of the tax. It is the dissatisfaction on that score which gives so much strength and conviction to the opposition, rather than the very real shock occasioned by the over-ambitious aims of Government's financial advisers. Income tax has operated in all parts of the world with such success that its application to Hong Kong cannot easily, in principle, be challenged. Indirect taxation is, in most respects, a relatively painless method of extraction, and therefore more readily acceptable, but there can be no argument, given the right conditions, that Income Tax is more definitely calculated to place the burden of taxation where it is most comfortably borne. The high levels of salaries tax which have been recommended to Government seem outrageous to those whose budgets are in constant conflict with prices, and considerable modification must emerge from the consultations preceding the development of the final formula if there is not to be grave hardship and disquiet. Protest would however be less vehement even in respect of such levels if there were acceptable assurance of equitable distribution of the inclusion within the scope of the tax of all who should properly come within the Commissioner's reach. Given those essential conditions, the gross revenue from this source, at such levels, would be so high that the taxpayer could, confidently expect compensatory reliefs of taxation of other kinds. Very largely, his ground for grievance would be cut from beneath him. As it is, he sees an outlook no brighter than the threat of a tax that is punitive in its range and that is directed, by force of circumstances, against a very restricted section of this community, and that section by no means fitted to carry the burden, economic conditions in the Colony being what they are. It is too much to expect that Government will altogether abandon the Income Tax project, which is, in reality, a series of taxes similar to those devised under the pre-war War Taxation Ordinance, but there is a justifiable demand for more reasonable assessment scales than have been contemplated. Concession will result in a substantial reduction in the gross revenue to which Government can look from this source—that goes without saying—but the answer is to be found in delving for the difference in additional indirect taxation. Several suggestions have been made with this in view. Poll tax, lotteries and purchase tax are among them. To the first two, strong objections are bound to be forthcoming. The merit that might reside in successfully insisting that every individual resident in the Colony should be in possession of an identification paper is probably outweighed by the many other considerations involved, not the least of them the creation of a sort of Gestapo atmosphere potential, not to mention merchandise for a new racket. The Purchase Tax would, we feel assured, be accepted with resignation, if not generous approval, simply on the ground that it would ensure that the great mass of the population would thereby contribute their fair share, big or small, to the cost of stable government. The same end might be gained by an ad valorem import tax on all commodities, except food, a measure which would have the added advantage of simplifying the process of collection, as well as minimising possible com-

Prohibition

Gave Them Fame

VOLSTEAD UNKNOWN POLITICIAN

DYNAMIC GANGSTER CAPONE

Last week in the United States two men lay dying half a continent apart. I wonder if one of the men, Andrew Volstead, knew that the other, whom he helped to create, Al Capone, was on his deathbed.

And I wonder if Scarface Capone was told of Andrew Volstead's death. The thoughts of the two men would doubtless have made interesting reading. The narrative masterpiece of the Roaring Twenties in America was the prohibitionist victory over Demon Rum.

It was just after the Armistice and before three million disfranchised American soldiers could get home and vote. A morose hysteria gripped the country. In the war on vice and crime the White House of Temperance succeeded at last in squeezing the bulbous nose of Booze.

The Anti-Saloon League wrote an Act. They looked around for a likely Congressman to sponsor it—and found Andrew Volstead, mild-mannered former schoolteacher turned lawyer and politician.

The Amendment to the Constitution had simply prohibited the sale of liquor. Volstead's Act gave precision to the Amendment by specifying penalties, defining what was a saloon, and so on.

Andrew Volstead thus became the "Father of Prohibition," and had the most famous name in America for more than a decade. During this period his name appeared more times in print than any other.

Andrew Volstead's most important constructive legislation is forgotten. It was the Farmers' Cooperative Act. Only his "bungle" brought him fame.

Just after announcement of the death of Mr. Volstead came the echo: Al Capone was dying, had received the last rites of the Roman Church. Strange coincidence.

For Al Capone also made his name from the fact of Prohibition.

Bodyguard

In 1923 a Chicago bear king named Johnny Torrio sat playing cards with some of his lieutenants at his gambling

club Four Deuces. Machine-gun bullets suddenly sprayed the walls, chipped the desk and dead entered Torrio's body. He survived, but took the gentle hint, retired from business, and returned to his native Italy.

Four years previously he had hired a bodyguard named Alphonse Capone. In 1923 his bodyguard became the boss.

Al had come to Chicago as the graduate of a very select school of crime in New York City, the Five Points Gang. His teachers included people like Leftie Louie and Gyp the Blood.

But he brought to Chicago a genius of his own. He was a smart business man. His interlocking lists of crime—beer, booze, and gambling—were sedulously modelled on the directives of the great corporations.

In organising and co-ordinating his multiple rackets, Capone copied the tactics of "legitimate" business barons like Insull and other monopolists—by pitting subordinates against each other and killing off would-be competitors.

Like other Chicago business men, Scarface Capone knew the value of political affiliations. He paid more than \$500,000 per year to politicians and officials.

He was completely non-partisan. He supported the "reform" government of Mayor Dwyer and was equally helpful to Mayor "Big Bill" Thompson, the most corrupt mayor Chicago has ever had.

Scarface didn't merely buy the government—he was the government.

He had an empire of 10,000 beer joints, which grossed some \$15,000,000 in 1927 alone. He had a private army of over 700 killers to do his bidding.

500 Dead

Not everyone was satisfied to see Capone rule. A West Side Gang, led by the notorious Dion O'Banion, one day decided Capone's time had come.

In broad daylight, with a procession of six big black automobiles, the O'Banion crowd machine-gunned the Hawthorne Hotel, where Scarface was dining. Capone, escaped by lying flat on the floor with his head in a brass spittoon.

When he rose from the floor he decided O'Banion and his gang had over-stepped the boundaries of propriety.

On February 14, 1927, St. Valentine's Day, in a North Clark-street garage, seven members of the O'Banion gang were waiting when a big black police car pulled up.

When the Blackwood convention then disclosed to South that North had the one missing king and one of the two missing aces, he made the correct bid of 6-No Trumps. If North, in answer to the 5-No Trumps question about kings, had indicated a lack of them with 6-Clubs, South was going to leave the contract here and make North try to catch the club K in a finesse, which was a 50-50 chance in view of South's holding.

The more important factor, however, was that South, who had started the Blackwood, was the only one of the two partners in position to know whether any aces—or kings—were out against the side. He knew all about the defenders' holding one, so was making a very sound decision when he called the 6-No Trumps. North should have let that decision stand, instead of taking it out to the unmakeable 7-Clubs, which got set by the heart A lead.

Tomorrow's Problem

S K 6 4 2
H A 7 6 4 8
D K 4
C 7 3

S 10 3
H K 9 8
D A J 10 7
C K J 9 4

S A Q J 9 5
H None
D Q 8 6 5
C A Q 10 6

(Dealer: North. Neither side vulnerable).

If South bids 1-Spade, North 3-Spades and South 6-Spades, what is the best defence against the contract?

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner

IN ENGLAND NOW



"Well, 18 is my size, but sometimes they get clear up to 42 before I find one that fits!"

Stalin Still Is Fit And Well

I interviewed Josef Stalin in his office in the Kremlin on the night of December 21, 1946. It was Stalin's 67th birthday. Present were Pavlov, the famous Russian interpreter, and my wife.

As we entered the long, plainly furnished room, Stalin walked towards me with arm outstretched.

He said: "I am very sorry that I kept you waiting in Moscow so long for this interview. I must apologise, but the truth is that I have been on a vacation. I planned to return earlier, but my doctor ordered me to lose four kilo-

By ELLIOTT
ROOSEVELT

grams (about nine pounds) of weight. I found out that this was more difficult than I expected."

I thanked him for his courtesy in receiving us, and we both congratulated him on his birthday and wished him many happy returns.

During our long interview I observed Stalin's appearance and mannerisms very carefully.

So far as I could tell, his health was good. He was sun-tanned and looked thinner than when I had last seen him with my father at Tehran in December, 1943. It was hard to believe that he was 67 years old.

His hair is definitely greayer and thinner than it was three years ago. His skin has the slightly mottled look that so many swarthy people acquire as they grow older.

The eyes were the same, however. They have the same sharp sparkle of tolerant good humor.

Stalin smoked one cigarette after another, always a Russian brand four inches long, with a brace and a quarter devoted to tobacco and the remaining two to three-quarters of a card.

He wore the greyish dress uniform of the Soviet army, with the large gold star of a Generalissimo on his red-and-gold epaulettes and a single decoration on his tunic. The decoration was the gold star of Hero of Socialist Labour.

Two plain-clothes men entered the garage and the rifle of machine-guns spelled the death of the evening. The "police" and "plain-clothes" men re-entered their car and drove off. Capone had squared accounts.

When the Federal authorities finally sent Al Capone to jail on Alcatraz in 1931 for income-tax evasion, Prohibition was nearly finished. The Capone Gang had by that time accounted for the lives of over 500 people.

With the passing of Volstead and Capone a fantastic story comes to an end.

Volstead, the man who, while himself a teetotaler, did not object to drinking in moderation, whose Act set off the era of the "rookies" and the gangsters—of "Lars" Diamond and Spider Kelly and Dutch Schultz and Al Capone.

And Al Capone himself, who may have been grateful once in a while to the fact that a man named Volstead put his name to a Prohibition Act and handed the Gang a fortune, and the world a crazy spectacle.

ORMUS DAVENPORT

Probably because of his recent loss of weight, his tunic appeared slightly loose at the throat, and revealed the white collar of his shirt.

The office in which the interview took place is a long room about 60 by 100 feet. My first impression was of simplicity to the point of austerity. It was a decided contrast to my father's office in the White House, which so completely expressed his personality and his love of collections of all kinds.

At each end of Stalin's office was a white porcelain Russian stove. The rugs and drapes were neutral in colour. The furniture was light wood with a beautiful finish. On the walls hung portraits of Peter the Great, Marx and Engels, and General Suvorov, creator of the first modern Russian army in the eighteenth century.

The office contained two like-nesses of Lenin. Over the uncluttered desk hung a large photograph of Lenin in his revolutionary days. On the opposite wall was a large, well-executed etching of him.

It was too cold to tramp around town begging for that extra pack under the counter, he said. I said it was too cold in our flat—and a few other things. He was not sympathetic when I left.

I guess that was why the fireplace looked so bare. We had a fire burning wood—50 skinny logs for 15 s, but the stuff was soaked through and when it finally caught the heat it hardly nudged the room's constant chill.

In the kitchen I scraped around for breakfast out of our weekly rations. My wife, as help me, was honestly ill; she ate the stale, fresh boiled eggs as dreamed of recovery. O'week ago we had received our egg ration so this week only priority customers, such as invalids, received them.

At least there was coffee—the English variety—and we could not find a percolator in London. I decided to make two cups of tea.

Our gas stove was still working, then the papers arrived: Mr. Atlee said gas, too, might be cut off. In a sudden fury born of complete futility I tried to light every hole on the gas ring in our tiny kitchen.

I thought it was the matches that were wrong—one of the few matches left out of the box obtainable per week. No. The matches were all right. The jets just did not have enough gas pouring through to flare up normally. Each needle-like opening needed personal attention.

That ended my dream of a hot bath. Our water system is heated by a gas boiler.

A glance outside the icy window confirmed my worst suspicions. It was snowing again. I ran through the gray, unit front room without looking at the fire and hurried myself into bed.

"Was it the coalman," my wife asked sleepily.

"No," I said. "My watch said 10.45 a.m. My stomach said it was hungry and my brain asked: 'England can't take it but can it?—United Press.'"

Your face and massage with skin food to counteract any drying effect. Remove all trace of the cream and apply the yeast. Leave until dry and remove gently with cold water.

Face Pack for tightening the skin and refining the pores. Put a quarter of a lb of Fullers Earth into a basin and mix to a creamy consistency with equal parts of peroxide and cold water. Cleanse the face thoroughly either with cream or soap and water, whichever suits you better, then smooth the paste evenly over the face, leave until dry, and wipe off gently with cold water. Finish by massaging the skin with a nourishing cream.

Face Pack for clearing the skin (useful in the case of spots and pimples). Take one and a half ounces of Fullers Earth, zinc oxide, one dram, Calamine half a dram, water eight ounces. Mix to a creamy consistency, and apply as in previous pack.

Here then are three masques that you can make—
Face Pack for enlivening the skin.
Mix two ounces of fresh yeast to a creamy consistency with water and milk. Cleanse

London, Feb. 14.
My wife said "please get up—it might be the coalman at the door."

I looked at my watch, 10.30 a.m. an hour and a half before our pampered little electric heater sucked any warmth from the main, cut off by orders of H.M. Government.

The classic Americanism "I should stand in bed" flitted through my mind as I rose to meet a member of 1947's royal family—the coalman.

"Any reputable packing house could have ruined our bedroom as a meat refrigerator. Any self-respecting man would expect central heating, but a Victorian landlady of a converted-Victorian mansion maintained respect for the late Queen.

The man at the door had clean, although frost-bitten, face. He was not the coalman and not even the millman—with our rationed pint delivered every other day.

The postman cheerily handed me a letter from the London Electrical Company. It said I owed U.S.\$50 for six weeks in pre-switched days. Fifty dollars for lights and two electric heaters. There was also a letter from my mother in Los Angeles. She said the heat was unbearable there.

Oh well, the switchoff was saving me money, providing my wife's chilblains did not require medical attention and my cold did not get any worse.

Shutting the dull gray outside from our "de luxe flat"—the rent is U.S.\$120 monthly exclusive of "lights, telephone—I faced a dull gray inside. The barred fireplace distinctly laughed at me: it reminded me the district fuel board allocated us half a ton a month ago—the coal is allocated on a basis of the size of your house.

The open hearth grinned its conviction the private coal company to which my allocation had been directed would never deliver that precious black stuff.

I had told a sympathetic fellow at Frank Butts and Sons, the coal company, that my wife was ill. He said his horses were too, so deliveries were held up. I offered him one of my last "precious American cigarettes. He said he did not smoke.

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Mix two ounces of fresh yeast to a creamy consistency with water and milk. Cleanse

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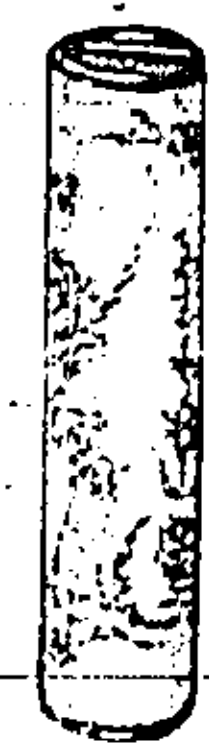
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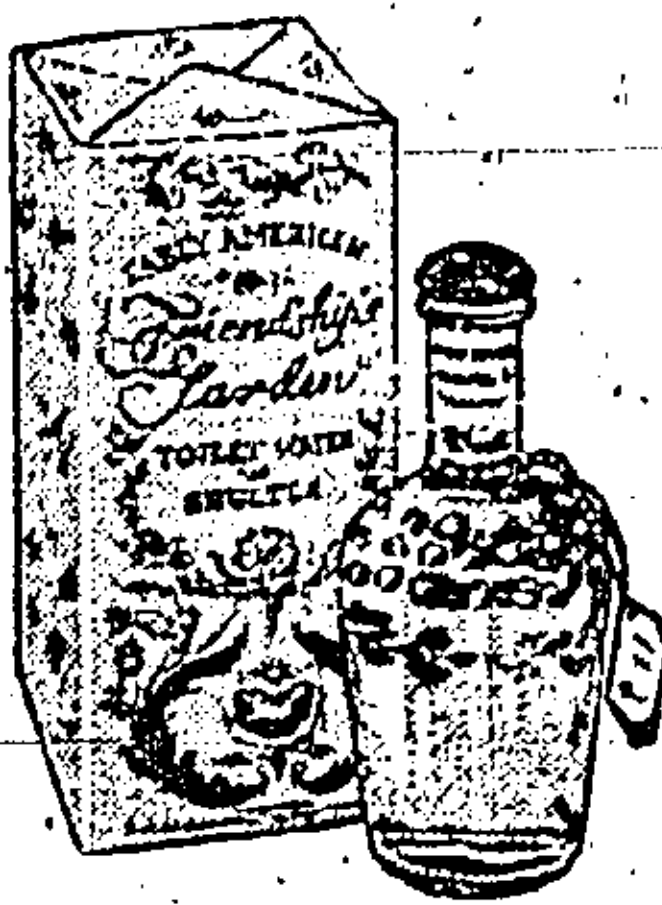
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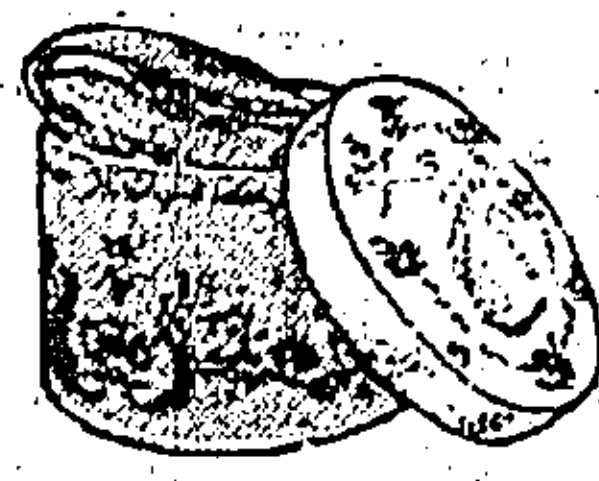
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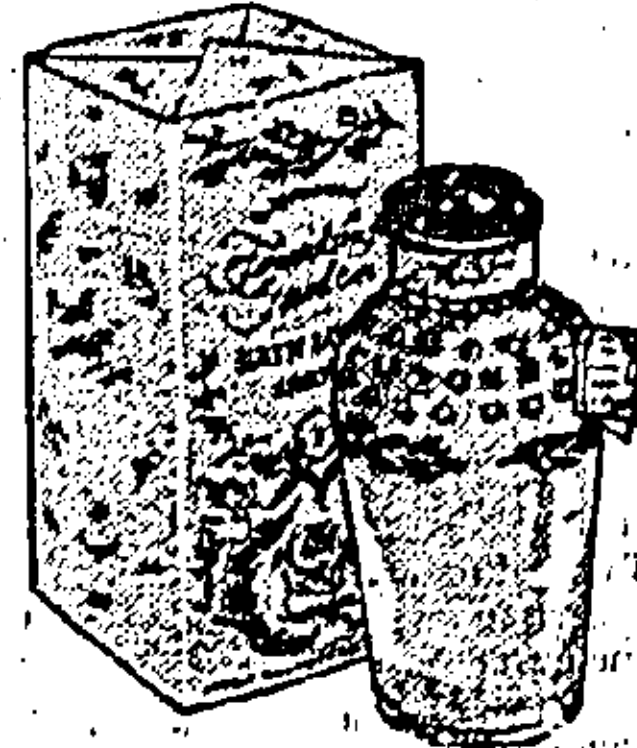
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DEFENCE WHITE PAPER
Armed Forces Now At Minimum

Safeguard Against Attack

London, Feb. 14.

Declaring that the supreme object of British policy must be to prevent war, a White Paper on defence, issued by the Government today, states: "The role of our forces, therefore, must be to deter aggression, while at the same time safeguarding British interests against attack."

Outlining the place of defence in national policy in peacetime against this background, the White Paper says that to maintain the British armed forces at the minimum number necessary, a major demand must continue to be made on the manpower of the United Kingdom, both for their uniform personnel and also for those engaged on the production of service arms and equipment.

Colonel On Bribe Charges

Cairo, Feb. 14.

Charges of receiving bribes totalling £47,000 from Egyptian war contractors as a reward for giving contracts, were preferred at a court martial here against Lieutenant Colonel James Sinclair-Dawson.

He pleaded not guilty.

The first charge alleged that between Sept. 1, 1945 and Aug. 7, 1946 when he was assistant director of the Hirmings and Disposal Branch of General Headquarters, Middle East Land Forces, he conspired with Colonel Beale, and Major White, of the Royal Ulster Rifles and other persons, to accept money from persons seeking Crown contracts.

Other charges accused him of receiving bribes including three of £1,000.

The court adjourned until today.—Reuter.

DEATH SENTENCE CONFIRMED

Jerusalem, Feb. 14.

General Sir Evelyn Barker, retiring General Officer Commanding a Palestine, confirmed the death sentences passed by a military court on Monday on three Jewish terrorists found guilty of carrying arms on the night when Major Paddy Brett and the British staff sergeants were flogged.

Sir Evelyn leaves for Britain this week on relinquishing his Palestine command.—Reuter.

The number of men and women estimated as serving in the forces on March 31, 1946, totals 1,087,000, as compared with the figure of 1,427,000 on Dec. 31, 1946, the document continues.

As regards manpower for service production, research and development, the British Government a year ago set a target of 500,000 to be reached by Dec. 31, 1946. This figure was actually reached in October, 1946. By the end of December the number employed on production, etc., for the services had fallen to 459,000.

The White Paper says that it has been possible to reduce the British forces in Germany to some extent, but the necessity for the retention of adequate strength, both from the point of view of internal security and to support the policy of the Control Council in Berlin remains undiminished.

Army In Greece

"It is necessary to retain forces in Austria until a peace treaty has been ratified and agreement is reached for the withdrawal of the Allied force," the document adds.

Referring to Italy, it says that when the Italian peace treaty has been ratified by all the powers concerned, it will be possible to withdraw the British forces from Venezia Giulia with the exception of the British contingent of the small international force which in accordance with the draft treaty, will remain in Trieste free territory, at the disposal of the governor until the new regime is fully established.

"We have been able to reduce the size of our forces in Greece and the remainder will, it is hoped, stay for a limited period only," the White Paper adds.

"In Palestine, the preservation of law and order and the control of illegal immigration requires the presence of substantial forces (if all three services," the report continues.

H.K. Garrison

"Adequate forces of all three services will be required in the Mediterranean and the Middle East to safeguard our communications. We must also continue to supply small garrisons for the British Colonies."

On the question of British forces in India, Burma and the Far East, the White Paper states that British forces are required in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf, and some forces are also being retained for the present in India and Burma.

"We must maintain forces in the Far East to provide carriages for British territory, including Hong Kong and Malaya, and to assist in maintaining security."

"It is the intention of His Majesty's Government," the White Paper continues, "to play their part in the occupation of Japan, although some reduction in the size of our contingent is being made."

"Our tasks in the Netherlands East Indies have been completed, and all our forces withdrawn."

"Small British forces will be required to provide support for the local forces in the West Indies."

The Minimum

The White Paper shows expenditure cuts on the Army, Navy and Air Force and Supply Services amounting to nearly half compared to last year—from £1,667,000,000 to £899,000,000 in 1947-48.

Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, has estimated that another 500,000 workmen are needed to enable the nation to achieve its production target in export industries. Industries producing for home consumption also need another

500,000, according to some estimates.

"The demand on the manpower resources of the country, which is admittedly heavy, must be considered against the background of world-wide commitments," the White Paper said.

"Improvements in the international situation may permit of reductions, but on present information His Majesty's Government are satisfied that the numbers wanted for the armed forces are the minimum required."

Reuter and Associated Press.

B.B.C. CRITIC

Sydney, Feb. 15.

Some B.B.C. material is so bad that if used it would put the Australian Broadcasting Corporation off the air, according to N. H. Pringle, a former B.B.C. senior variety producer who is now with the A.B.C.

Pringle, who said his duties included censorship of B.B.C. programmes sent to the A.B.C., made the statement when supporting a demand for a wage rise by A.B.C. senior officers.—Associated Press.

Palestine Problem To Go Before U.N.O.

London, Feb. 14.

The British Government has decided to refer the whole problem of Palestine to the United Nations as no proposals put forward by Britain had proved acceptable as a basis for further discussion by the Jews and Arabs, according to the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, speaking to the Arab delegates at the final session of the Palestine conference.

The leader of each of the Arab delegations again emphasised that no proposal which involved any form of partition or Jewish immigration would be acceptable as a basis for solution of the problem.

Palestine a thorn in Britain's side ever since General Allenby drove the Turks out of Jerusalem in 1917—probably will continue to be policed by 100,000 British troops and governed by the present administration until the United Nations decides what to do.

but Britain is in a such haste to shelve the problem that a Foreign Office spokesman indicated she may ask the UNO Security Council to call a special meeting of the General Assembly to consider the situation.

Under ordinary procedure the Assembly would not meet until September.

There was no definite indication that Britain—which has set up plans for the independence of India and Burma and initiated military withdrawal from Egypt—would propose her permanent withdrawal from Palestine too.

Whether she will recommend a specific plan for Palestine to the United Nations, or merely turn over all suggested plans without recommendation, may be announced in the House of Commons on Monday.—Reuter and Associated Press.

NO GENERAL DEMOB

London, Feb. 14.

The Defence Minister, Mr. A. V. Alexander, in answer to Mr. Charles Smith, Labour, who asked whether he was able to announce the date for general demobilisation, replied in the negative, and said that demobilisation was a continuing process under the age and service scheme.

"The term general demobilisation has no statutory significance," said Mr. Alexander.—Reuter.

Doctor Never Took The Oath

Nuernberg, Feb. 14.

Dr. Hans Wolfram Romberg, one of the German doctors on trial here accused of inhuman medical experiments on live human beings, told the court today that he never took the Hippocratic oath because it was "not the usual thing."

"The oath of Hippocrates is the basis of medical ethics," Romberg testified. "It was not the usual thing—at least not officially," for doctors to take the oath at the time he was licensed in Berlin in 1935.

Romberg refuted earlier claims by fellow defendants that only condemned prisoners were used for experiments. He admitted that prisoners with long sentences were also used.

He said about nine deaths resulted during experiments in Dachau. He added that he personally witnessed three of the fatal experiments.—United Press.

Marshall Appeals To Greeks

Washington, Feb. 14.

An appeal to all Greek parties to sink their partisan differences and to engage in a dynamic programme of political and economic reconstruction was made here tonight by General George Marshall, Secretary of State.

Welcoming the recent broadening of the Greek Government of the terms of "dynamic" programme as "amnesty" coupled with disarming of illegal bands just and vigorous tax reforms modernisation of the civil service and realistic financial control.

He said that no assistance to Greece in the maintenance of her independence and territorial integrity could prove of benefit unless the Greek people were prepared to work together for their own salvation.

"Law-abiding citizens can offer little help to their country as long as they are intimidated by armed extremists of whatever political complexion," he added.—Reuter.

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BRITAIN TURNS CORNER On The Road Back To Production

Experts Discuss Switch-On

London, Feb. 14.
Britain's all-out effort to rebuild stocks of coal at power stations is showing the first definite results, the Ministry of Fuel and Power announced this afternoon.

"Though the position is very serious and coal stocks remain far below the safety level," the Ministry stated, "there was all-round evidence yesterday and this morning that a little more had been gained."

The coal saved in the half of the country where the electricity switch-off has operated since Monday reached more than 30,000 tons yesterday—43 per cent of normal consumption and the best figure yet recorded.

The total saving in all areas since Monday was 112,000 tons, the Ministry said.

Today Ministers and experts of Prime Minister Attlee's special coal commission discussed the date for the great switch-on of electricity when the wheels of industry will begin to turn again. Nothing can be definitely settled until the weather finally improves and although London temperatures rose above freezing point today for the first time since Monday, the Air Ministry warned that the frost would return. But observers were cheered that the commission turned its thoughts today to the end of the crisis.

Austin Dismissals

The Austin Motor Company, which closed its works a week before the current cuts owing to lack of coal, today announced that they were dismissing their 14,000 production employees.

The company has already paid more than £100,000 in wages to men who have been unable to do any work.

The sailings of colliers from Northeast ports, where hundreds of thousands of tons of coal have been held up through fog and gales, were back to normal today.

The first tractor load with food to Staffordshire villages marooned for a fortnight got through last night a few hours after a four-engined Halifax bomber crashed while trying to bomb supplies in.

Hundreds of men using bulldozers cleared the roads of drifts sometimes 15 feet deep and all today tractors, bread-vans and grinders' vans have been pouring food in for eleven villages—practically the first supplies they have had in two weeks.

A special train was also chartered to rush food in and as soon as news came that road and rail communications were open the Royal Air Force cancelled its plans to parachute supplies.

Europe In Chaos

Meanwhile from every other European centre came reports of chaotic transport and fuel sup-

ply conditions brought on by the bitterly cold weather. No sign of a thaw has been reported.

A Reuter report from Brussels said 70 per cent of Belgium's next wheat crop has been destroyed by successive spells of frost and 65,000 hectares will have to be reserved.

From Prague it was reported that the marshalling yards in the important coal-mining districts of Moravia were blocked by snowstorms.

In Hamburg all gas supplies were cut off today because of the lack of coal at gasworks. It is hoped to restore the gas tomorrow when 700 tons of coal should reach the gasworks.

Leipzig radio reported the lower reaches of the Rhine were now covered with ice for a distance of 60 kilometres.—Reuter.

Corner Turned

London, Feb. 15.
The Government announced last night that "there were signs that Britain has 'turned the corner' on the road back to industrial production and lighted homes."

"But if we have turned the corner, it is only just," said Sir Guy Nott-Bower, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, reporting latest developments in the battle against the gravest coal shortage in the nation's history.—Associated Press.

Prisoners Set Free

Athens, Feb. 14.
A prison warden was kidnapped and four persons were killed in a guerrilla attack on the Sparta prison last night, the Greek Ministry of Public Order announced tonight.

The number of prisoners who were freed and escaped to the hills was 233, the Ministry stated.

Guerrillas encircled the town after dark and opened fire on the prison buildings with anti-tank mortars and machineguns, the Ministry said.—Reuter.

EURYALUS AT POMPEY

London, Feb. 14.
After more than two years' service with the British Pacific Fleet, the 5,450 tons cruiser HMS Eurymachus will arrive at Portsmouth from the Far East tomorrow.

In addition to her crew she has on board nearly 100 Service passengers who will be disembarked on arrival.—Reuter.

Attlee Declines With Thanks

London, Feb. 14.
Mr. Clement Attlee today sent a message to President Truman thanking him for his offer yesterday to divert to Britain colliers carrying 250,000 tons of coal to Europe.

"My colleagues and I have learned with warm appreciation of your offer to do all in your power to help in relieving our coal shortage, and in particular to support measures for diverting to this country United States coal now en route to Europe," Mr. Attlee said.

"I need not say how grateful we are for your readiness to assist in the difficult times through which we are passing. But the need for coal in Europe is no less pressing and we could not ask that cargoes should be diverted from Europe to the United Kingdom," the Prime Minister added.—Reuter.

Malays Want Brooke

London, Feb. 14.
Captain Bertram Brooke, Tuan Muda of Sarawak until his accession to the Crown, has received a cable from the President of the Malay National Union of Sarawak begging him to "come to Sarawak with the utmost speed."

Captain Brooke replied today that he is not well enough to face the journey, nor is it known whether the Colonial Office would permit him to enter Sarawak.

Captain Brooke is the brother of the former Rajah. His son, Anthony Brooke, has been banned from entering the country.—Reuter.

New Deal For The Navy

Portsmouth, Feb. 14.
The Admiralty Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. John Dugdale, said at Portsmouth tonight that the past 18 months had seen the start of revolution in naval welfare and the Admiralty were going to make a start with the provision of married quarters on naval stations at home and abroad.

He said that the Admiralty has started a scheme of free passages for families of ratings serving abroad for long periods and added improvements were also planned for the equipment of ships.

"The Government has recognised for the first time in history that sailors have as much right as any other people to have families with them when serving abroad for long periods," said Mr. Dugdale.—Reuter.

Trouble In Yugoslavia?

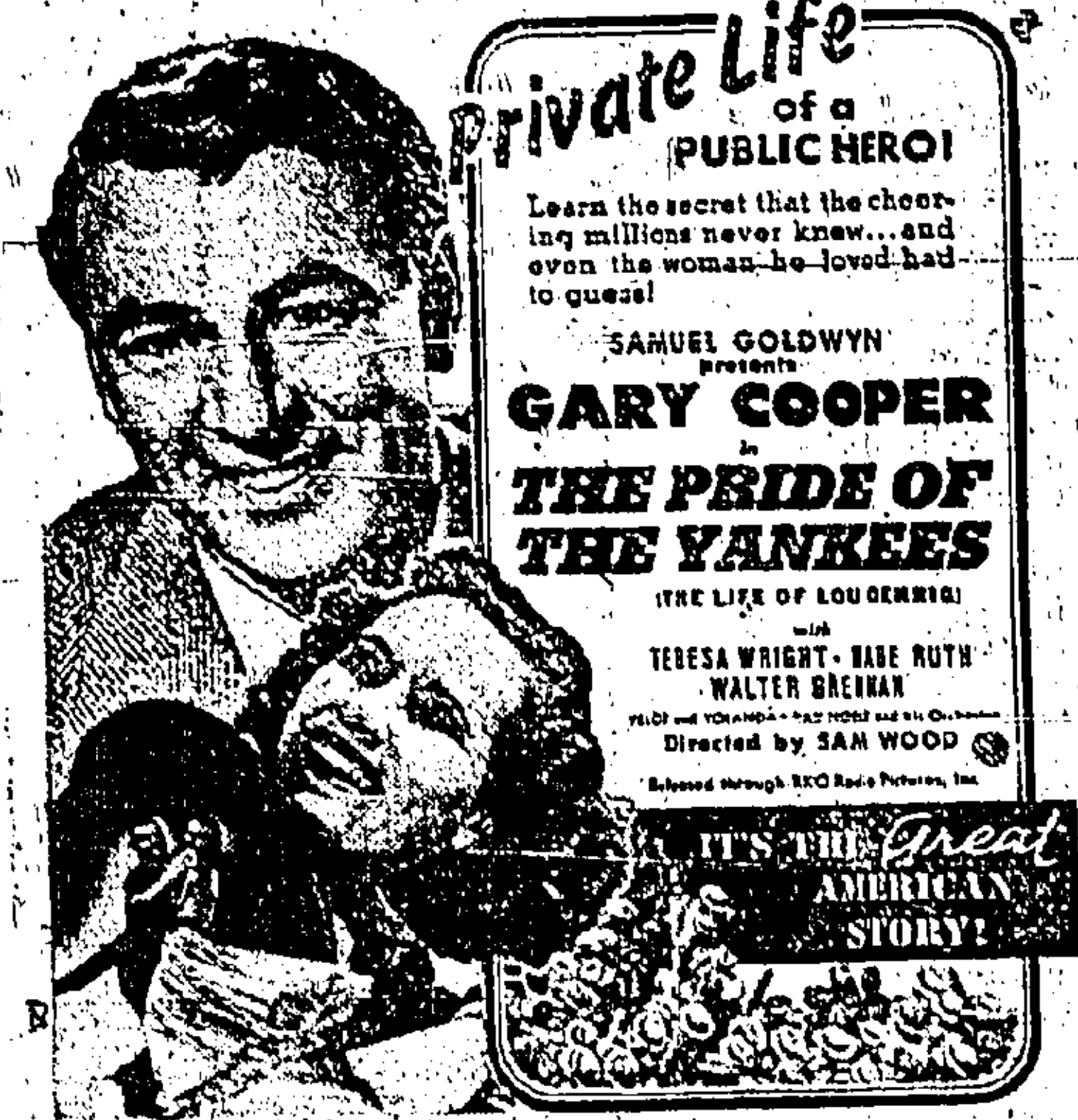
Athens, Feb. 14.
Yugoslavia today alleged before the United Nations Balkans Commission that the presence of British troops and the existence of the anti-democratic Government in Greece facilitates the entry of "bandits" from other Balkan countries, who conspired against popular Democratic Governments of those lands.

The Greek News Agency says that the statement was made by M. Kriem Kruif before the commission which is inquiring into the Greek allegations of foreign aid to guerrillas in northern Greece.—Reuter.

Munich, Feb. 15.
Eighty-six soldiers and 200 German civilians were seized today in a raid by 900 American troops and German police on Munich's major trouble zone where AWOL soldiers and black market operators were sought. Many German girls with the soldiers were taken.—Associated Press.

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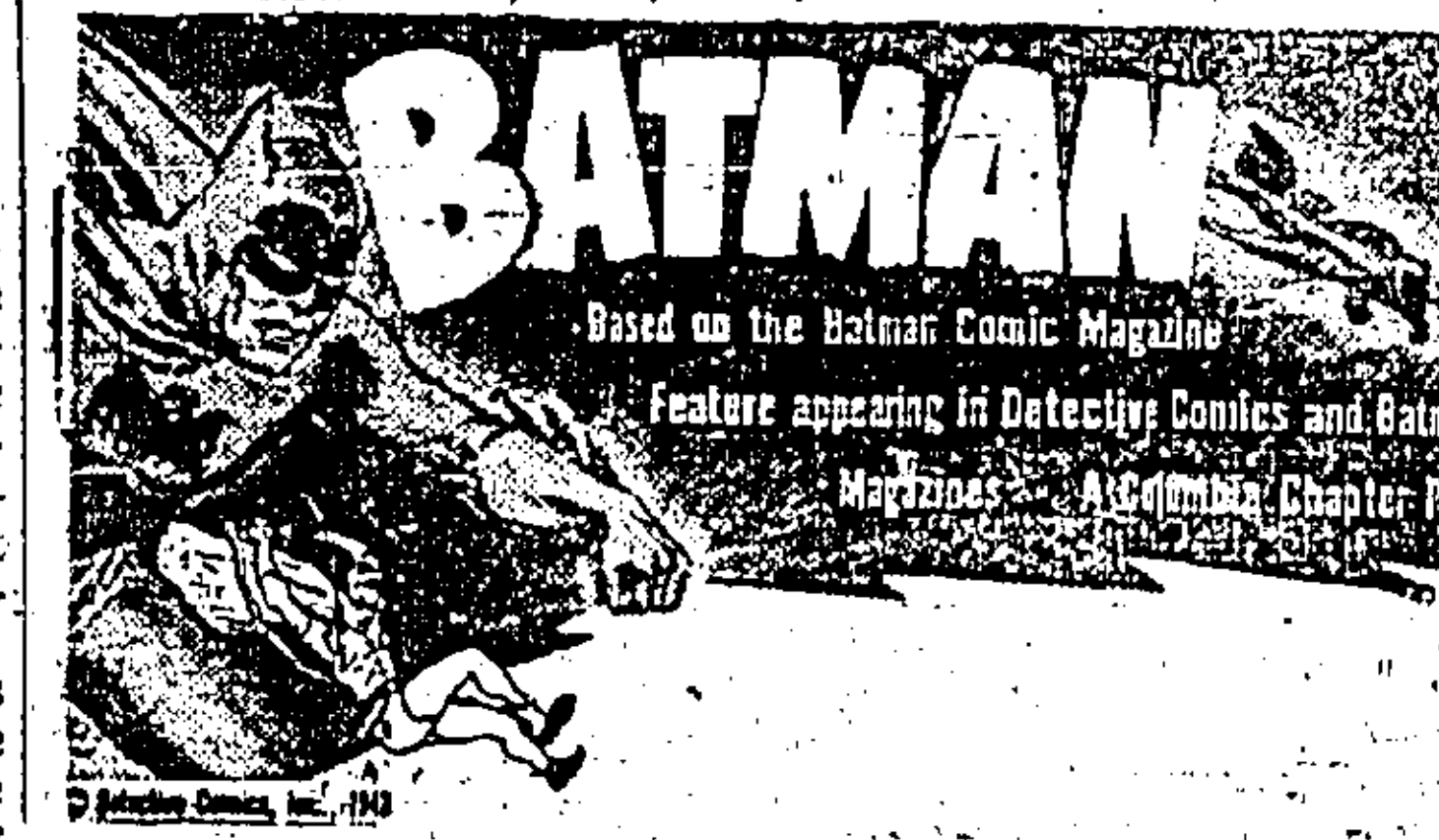
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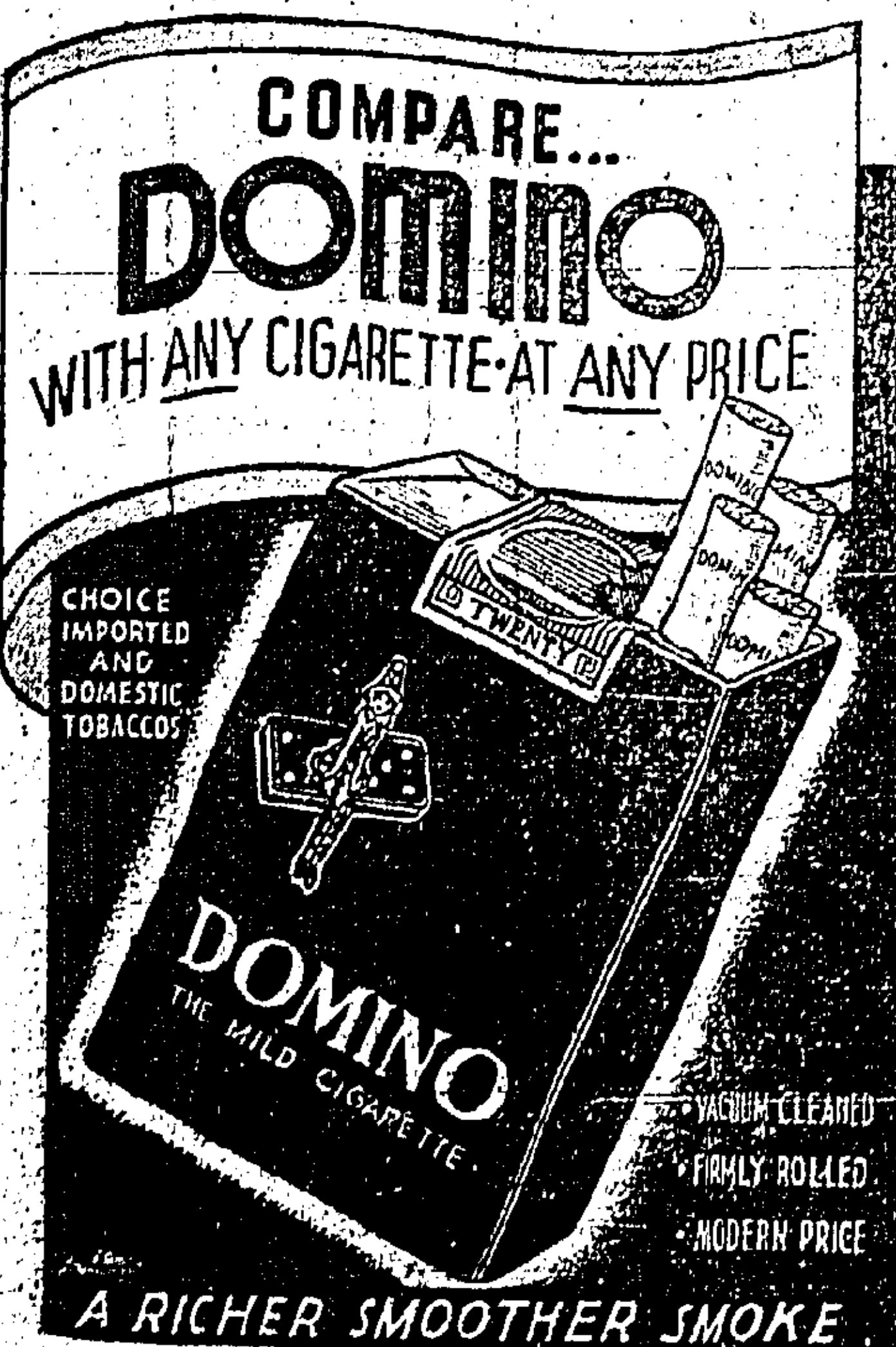
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AMBER ST. CLARE, illegitimate daughter of noble blood, who is brought up in a small village by foster-parents. She grows into a ravishing beauty, and in the village one day in the year 1660 she meets

BRUCE, LORD CARLTON, a cavalier, with whom she falls in love. Travelling with Lord Carlton is the

EARL OF ALMSBURY, who, seeing Amber's obvious infatuation for Bruce, slipperily introduces them at the local inn. Amber persuades Carlton to take her to London with him. Eventually Carlton leaves for the Indies to repair the family fortunes lost in the Civil War. Amber is desolate. She finds herself with child and marries a man who eventually disappears with all the money Carlton had left her.

All alone, Amber gets into debt and is thrown into Newgate Gaol, where she suffers every degradation. In order to ease her lot she gives herself to a notorious highwayman, who plans their escape. The highwayman is eventually hanged. Amber then goes on the stage because she learns that actresses cannot be arrested.

She meets Captain Rex Morgan, a gallant from the Court. While Amber is his mistress she is summoned by the King, and lies with him.

Then Bruce Carlton returns. He and Amber go to see their son, who is being cared for by a foster-mother. Rex Morgan hears of her love affair with Carlton and challenges him to a duel. Rex is killed. Bruce once again sails away.

Amber, thinking she is again with child, goes to Tunbridge Wells to take the waters. On the way she meets

SAMUEL DANGERFIELD, a 60-year-old, wealthy City merchant, and a widower. She marries him for his money, and she is soon a widow with £66,000.

Amber has a daughter, Susanna, by Bruce, and moves to an apartment in St. Martin's-lane. Bruce returns from sea and catches the plague. Amber nurses him with fanatical devotion. She then catches the plague and Bruce helps to nurse her.

When both are well they go to Barbary Hill. Almsbury's country seat at Gloucester. They spend their days with their son and daughter, but soon Bruce steals away to sea to his ships. Amber is inconsolable.

Almsbury introduces her to the Earl of Radclyffe, who is very poor. Almsbury suggests the Earl wants to marry Amber for her money.

The Earl of Radclyffe's first gift to Amber was a beautifully carved ebony statue. Then came a gilded Florentine mirror. "He must intend marrying me," Amber told Almsbury. "No man makes such valuable presents unless he expects to get 'em back again."

Almsbury laughed. "I think you're right. And if he does make you a proposal—what about you? Will you accept?" Amber gave a sigh and a shrug. "I don't know. It's no use being rich unless you've got a title too." She made a face. "But I hate that stinking old buck-fitch."

"Then marry a young man," she gave him a glance of indignation. "Why, I'd rather be buried alive than marry one of your bectoring Frenchified Covent Garden fops! I know well enough what that means. They get you with child and send you off to the gentry to breed—while they stay in London to play the town-bull and spend all your portion on actresses and 'Change women. No thanks, not for me. I've seen enough of that to learn my lesson. If I've got to marry someone to get a title, I'd rather marry an old man I hate than a young one I hate. At least there's a sooner prospect of freedom that way."

"Don't Marry"

The Earl burst into hearty laughter. Amber looked at him in surprise and some annoyance. "Well, my lord? What makes you so hysterical, pray?"

"You do, sweetheart. I swear no one would ever guess to hear you talk that six years ago you were a simple country wench and so virtuous you slapped my face for making you an honest offer of my affections. I wonder what's happened to her—that innocent, pretty girl—I saw on the Mary-green common?" His voice and eyes turned a little wistful at the last.

Amber was petulant; why shouldn't he be satisfied with the way she was now? She liked to think of Almsbury as one man who accepted her exactly as she was, liked her and approved of everything she said and did. "I don't know," she said crossly. "She's gone now—if she ever existed at all. She couldn't last long in London."

He gave her hand a quick, friendly grasp. "No, darling, she couldn't. But, seriously, I think it would be a mistake for you to marry Radclyffe."

"Why? You suggested it yourself to begin with."

"I know. But I only wanted to make you think about something besides Bruce. In the first place, he's deep in debt. It might take half your inheritance to get him out."

"Oh, I've got that all planned. I'll have the contract drawn to let me retain management of my own funds."

Her Ambition

Almsbury shook his head. "That'll never do. He wouldn't marry you with any such arrangement as that—any more than you'd marry him if he was to retain sole use of his

title. No, if you marry Radclyffe you've got to sign over your money to him. But—do you think you could tolerate living in the same house with him—not to mention sleeping in the same bed?"

"Oh, as for that! In London I won't know he's about. I'll spend all my days at Court, and may be some of my nights too." Her mouth turned up significantly at one corner; she had never completely abandoned her earlier ambition of being His Majesty's mistress—and whenever Bruce Carlton was gone the prospect glittered.

To be mistress of the King, a great lady, feared and envied, and admired. To be stared and pointed at in the streets, watched in the galleries of the palace, bowed and truckled to in the drawing-rooms. To be begged for favours, fawned upon for a smile—to hold the power of success or failure over dozens, even hundreds, of men and women.

That was the summit of ambition—higher than the Queen, mightier than the Chancellor, greater than any nobly born woman in the land. And if she could once be presented at Whitehall, have the right and privilege of the royal apartments, see him day after day—Amber had no doubt that she could occupy the place which his Lady Castlemaine, the King's favourite mistress, was said to be rapidly losing.

All those things were in her mind when—just a few days after Christmas—she accepted the Earl of Radclyffe's proposal of marriage.

The marriage contract had been signed at Barbary Hill and Amber supposed he would take advantage of the usual custom to lie with her that night. At eight o'clock, however, he bowed, wished her a good-night, and retired to his own chamber. Amber and Nan watched him go, both of them staring with astonishment. Then, as the door closed, they looked at each other and burst into uncontrollable giggles.

"He must be impotent!" hissed Nan.

"I hope so!"

"Amber Countess" of Radclyffe, she said slowly one week after they had been married. "Much good it does me," she told her reflection in the mirror. Her life was no more exciting than when she was plain Mrs. Dangerfield; less so than when she was Madame St. Clare of His Majesty's Theatre. She had scarcely left her suite of rooms in Radclyffe House, Aldersgate-street, just outside the City gates. Was this what she had traded her £66,000 for? It seemed a bad bargain, dullness and a man she despised.

For now that she was his wife Radclyffe was a greater enigma than ever.

She saw him but little, for he had a multitude of interests which he did not wish to share with her nor she with him. Several hours of almost every day he spent in the laboratory which opened out of their bedroom, and for which new equipment was constantly arriving.

When he was not there he was in the library or in the offices on the lower floor, reading, writing, going over his bills, and making plans for the remodeling and furnishing of the house. Though this was to be done, obviously, at Amber's expense, he never consulted her wishes in the matter or even told her what plans he had made.

As Enemies

They met, usually, just twice a day—at dinner, and in bed. Conversation at dinner was polite and arid, carried on chiefly for the benefit of the servants, but in bed they did not talk at all. The Earl could not, in any real sense, make love to her, for he was impotent and apparently had been for some time. More than that, he disliked her, frankly and contemptuously—even while she roused in him conflicting emotions of desire and some wild yearning toward the past which he could never explain. Yet he longed violently for complete physical possession—a longing at which he caught

himself after night but never grasped, and it drove him down a hundred strange pathways of lust and helpless rage.

From the first morning they were enemies, but it was not until several days had gone by that mutual antipathy flared into open conflict. It was over a question of money.

He presented to her a neatly-written note, addressed to Shadree Newbold, her goldsmith: "Request to pay to Edmund Mortimer, Earl of Radclyffe, or bearer, the sum of £18,000," and asked her to sign it, for the money was still in her name, though he possessed the marriage-contract which put control of her entire fortune, except for £10,000, into his hands.

In a Temper

They were standing beside a small writing-table. As he gave her the paper he took a quill, dipped it in the ink-well, and extended it to her. She glanced at the note, and then, with a little gasp of amazement, raised her head to look at him.

"Eighteen thousand pounds!" she cried angrily. "My portion won't last long at this rate!"

"I beg your pardon, madame, but I believe that I am as well acquainted with the evanescent quality of money, and I have no more wish to dissipate your inheritance than you have to see me do so. This £18,000 is to pay my debts, which, as I told you, have been accumulating for 25 years."

He spoke with the air of one who makes a reasonable explanation of a difficult problem to a child who is not very clever, and Amber gave him a furious glare. For a moment longer she hesitated, her mind stabbing here and there for a way out. But at last she snatched away the quill, thrust it into the ink-well and with a few swift strokes scrawled her name across the sheet, making specks of ink fly as she did so. Then she threw down the pen, left him and walked to the window, where she stood staring down into the alley below—scarcely seeing two women fish-vendors who were bellowing curses and slapping at each other with huge flounders.

In a few moments she heard the door close behind him. Suddenly she whirled, grabbed up a small Chinese vase and threw it violently across the room, lighting a blast of fire. "Stinking old devil!" she cried.

Nan rushed forward as though she would rescue the pieces. "Oh, Lord, madam! Your Ladyship!" she corrected. "He'll be stark, staring mad when he finds what you've done! He was mighty fond of that vase!"

"Yes! Well, I was mighty fond of that £18,000 too! The varlet!"

I wish it had been his head! Lord, what a miserable wretch is a husband!"

On the 1st of February Charles returned to Whitehall. There were deep snows on the ground, the church bells pealed out merrily, and at night great bonfires lighted the black winter sky.

Majesty, however, and all the ladies had remained at Hampton Court. Castlemaine had recently given birth to another son; the Queen had miscarried again. And York was not speaking to his Duchess because he thought of pretending to this—that he had been having an affair with handsome Henry Sidney.

Radclyffe went to wait upon the King, but Amber could not go to Court until the women returned, when she might be presented at Court or some other formal occasion. However, having once paid his respects, Radclyffe did not go often to Whitehall. He was not the sort of man King Charles would take for a confidant and his religion barred him from ever holding an office.

Time Drags

FURTHERMORE, he had been too long away from Court. A new generation was setting the pace, and it was not the pace at which his own had moved. There was a new way of living which he considered to be shallow, frivolous, lacking in grace or purpose. Most of the men he judged either knaves or fools or both, and the women he thought a pack of empty-headed sluts. He included his wife in this category.

To Amber it seemed that time passed more slowly than ever before. She spent hours at Whitehall, helping her learn to walk, building block castles and playing with her, singing her the dozens of nursery rhymes she remembered from her own childhood.

She adored her—but she could not build a whole life around her. She longed for that great exciting world to which she had belonged and paid her admission, and which she had now entered proudly by the front door, not sneak into like a culprit through some back passageway.

She was glad that Radclyffe was not interested in the gay life at the Palace for that would have left all the more free to enjoy it herself.

Amber Lonely

Amber wanted nothing so much as to get away from him. She felt as though he was casting some evil spell over her, for though she did not actually see him often, he seemed to hang forever at her shoulder, to lurk in her mind—sombre and dreaded.

Alone in the house as she was and with few diversions, every thing that was said or done by either of them assumed a magnified importance. She mulled over each word spoken, each glance exchanged, every action, worrying it like a dog with a bone.

Once, out of boredom, she ventured into his laboratory. She unlocked the door, found it open, and went in quietly so as not to disturb him. Great stacks of books and manuscripts, recently sent down from Lime Park, his country home, were piled on the floor.

There were several skulls, hundreds of jars and bottles, oil-lamps, pottery vessels of every shape and size—all the paraphernalia of alchemy. He was engaged, she knew, in the "Great Work"—a tedious, complicated process of seven years which had as its goal the discovery of the Philosopher's Stone—a search that was occupying some of the best minds of the age.

As she entered he stood before a table, his back to her, carefully measuring a yellow powder. She said nothing, but walked toward him, her eyes going curiously over the loaded shelves and tables. All at once he gave a start, and the bottle dropped from his hands.

Amber jumped backward to avoid spotting her gown. "Oh! I'm sorry. What are you doing in here?"

Her anger flared quickly. "I just came in to look. Is there any harm in that?"

He relaxed, smoothing the scowl from his face. "Madame, there are several places where women do not belong—under any circumstances at all. A laboratory is one of them. Pray don't disturb me again. I've spent too many years and too much money on this project to have it ruined by a woman's blundering."

After alchemy his greatest interest was his library, where he spent many hours of each day. For most of his life he had been collecting rare books and manuscripts, which he kept all in precise order, listing each one carefully and with a full account of everything that pertained to it. But his interest in books was more than mere pleasure in possession, in the look and feel of fine leather and old paper. He read them as well.

There were Greek plays; Cicero's Letters and the Meditations of Marcus Aurelius; Plutarch and Dante; Spanish plays; French philosophers and scientists—all in their original languages.

He did not forbid Amber the library, but it was not until the week that she went into it. She had now become so desperate for entertainment that she was finally willing to read a book.

But she had not realized that he was there, and when she saw him, sitting beside the fireplace with a pen in his hand and a great volume lying open on the writing table, she hesitated for a moment, then started up again. He glanced up, saw her, and to her surprise got positively on his feet, smiling.

"Pray come in, madame. I see no reason why a woman may not enter a library—even though she isn't likely to find much in it to her taste. Or are you that freak of man and nature—a learned female?"

"His mouth," as he spoke the last sentence, turned ironically down, in common with most men—no matter what their own intellectual interests and acquisitions might be—he considered education for women absurd and even amusing. Amber ignored the libel; it was not a subject on which she could be easily offended.

"I thought I might find something to pass the time with. Have you got any plays written in English?"

"Several. What do you prefer—Ben Jonson, Marlowe, Beaumont and Fletcher, Shakespeare?"

"Cowardice"

"It doesn't matter. I've acted 'em all." She knew that he did not like any reference to her acting, and mentioned it frequently to annoy him. So far he had refused her bait.

But now he looked at her with obvious displeasure. "Madame, I had hoped your own sense of shame would prevent you from making any further reference to so unfortunate an episode in your life. Pray let me hear no more about it."

"Why not? I'm not ashamed of it!"

"I am."

"It didn't keep you from marrying me!"

From across the dozen or so feet that separated them they eyed each other. Amber had long felt sure that if once she could break through his coldness and composure she would have him at her mercy. If I ever hit him, she had told herself a dozen times, I'd never be afraid of him again. But she could not quite bring herself to do it. She knew well enough that he had a strong streak of cruelty, a malevolent savagery—highly refined, as were all his vices. But she had not found any restraining rein of conscience or compassion. Therefore she hesitated out of fear, and hated herself for the cowardice.

THE BOOK EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT

Amber had long felt sure that if once she could break through his coldness and composure she would have him at her mercy. If I ever hit him, she had told herself a dozen times, I'd never be afraid of him again. But she could not quite bring herself to do it. She knew well enough that he had a strong streak of cruelty, a malevolent savagery—highly refined, as were all his vices. But she had not found any restraining rein of conscience or compassion. Therefore she hesitated out of fear, and hated herself for the cowardice.

"Attractions"

"No," he agreed at last, "it didn't keep me from marrying you—for you had other attractions which I found it impossible to resist."

"Yes!" snapped Amber. "Sixty-six thousand of 'em!"

Radclyffe smiled. "How perceptive," he said, "for a woman!"

For several seconds she stared at him, longing violently to smash her fist into his face. She had the feeling that it would crumble, like a mummy's, beneath any hard and sudden blow, and she could picture his expression of horror as his face disintegrated. Suddenly she turned toward the bookshelves.

"Well, where are they? The plays?"

"On this shelf, madame. Take whatever you want."

"Rare Books"

She picked out three or four at random, hastily, for she was anxious to get away from him. "Thank you, sir," she said without looking at him, and started out. Just as she reached the door she heard his voice again.

"I have some very rare Italian books in which I believe you would be interested."

"I don't read Italian," she did not glance around.

"These may be appreciated without a knowledge of the language. They make use of the universal language of pictures."

She at once understood what he meant and paused, caught by her own strong interest in whatever was sensational or prurient. With a smile which clearly betrayed his cynical amusement at her curiosity, he turned and took down from a shelf a hand-tooled leather-bound volume, laid it on the table, and stood waiting.

She turned and for a moment hesitated, watching him suspiciously as though this were some trap he had set for her. Then, with a defiant lift of her chin, she walked forward and opened the book, turned half a dozen pages on which was some unrecognisable printing, and stopped with a gasp of surprise at the first picture.

A "Treasure"

For a moment Amber looked at it fascinated. Suddenly she glanced up and found him watching her, carefully, with the same expression she had seen that day in Almsbury's library. It disappeared again as swiftly as the time before, and she picked up the book and started across the room.

"I thought you'd be interested," she heard him saying. "But pray handle it carefully. It's very old and very rare—a treasure of its kind."

He did not answer or look around but went on out of the room. She felt bewildered and angry, both pleasantly excited and disgusted. It seemed, somehow, that he had taken an advantage of her.

CEASE FIRE IN INDONESIA

Batavia, Feb. 14. The Indonesian Republican General Staff today issued a "cease-fire" order to the troops under its control to take effect from midnight tomorrow, Dutch sources reported.

The cease-fire order, forecast on Wednesday by Dr. Sultan Sahjrah Indonesian Prime Minister, implements the agreement with the Dutch military authorities reached on Oct. 14 last, after prolonged negotiations in which British experts took part.

Difficulties arose after the signing of the agreement which provided for the stabilisation of Dutch and Indonesian forces in their existing positions.—Reuter.

DUTCH STOP U.S. SHIP

Batavia, Feb. 14. A Dutch Navy corvette intercepted and searched for contraband the 9,000-ton American freighter Martin Lehman off the North Java port of Cheribon on Feb. 7; it was reported here today.

Nothing valuable was found but the captain is said to have been warned that if he loaded rubber, sugar or quinine his cargo would be confiscated.

The British ship Empire Mayflower was recently intercepted by a Dutch naval vessel in the same waters on suspicion that she had loaded rubber at Cheribon from estates which the Dutch claim are not Indonesian property.—Reuter.

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WARNING TO FRANCE: NEED FOR DISCIPLINE

Paris, Feb. 14.

While thousands of French civil servants demonstrated today for more wages and France faced grave unrest, Socialist Premier Paul Ramadier told the National Assembly "If France cannot submit herself to national discipline, the country, and even the Republican regime will be placed in great danger."

The Cabinet at its meeting earlier was understood to have maintained apparent unity between parties in the face of a threatened cataract of strikes as a result of rising discontent over the cost of living and food shortages.

The present situation is placing a Cabinet crisis in the near future.

The Communists are committed to support organised labour's demand for "a basic minimum wage" and for other adjustments which involve higher wages bills. There is also believed to be a split in the Cabinet on the proposed Anglo-French alliance. The present economic crisis

EXPLOSIONS IN MADRID

Madrid, Feb. 14.

Two bomb explosions occurred in Madrid tonight. A small bomb exploded outside the door of the criminal investigation department of police headquarters and the second in a flat used by a foreign diplomat within 100 metres of the British Embassy. No casualties were reported in either incident, but structural damage was caused. —Reuter.

Soviet Objects To China

London, Feb. 14.

The Soviet Union today insisted that China be excluded from the list of host powers for the proposed German peace conference.

The Soviet deputy, M. Feodor Gusev, argued before the Council of Foreign Ministers' deputies that only powers "signatory to the German surrender instrument"—the Big Four—should be considered host powers.

China, in a note to the Foreign Ministers' Council, demanded that she be considered a sponsoring power in the event of a German peace conference, by virtue of her membership on the Council.

M. Gusev remained adamant, despite opposition from France, Britain and the United States. France also upset the harmony of the session by her refusal to consider the proposal that the German Government be given an opportunity to express its views on the peace treaty.

The American deputy, Mr. Robert Murphy, who suggested that the German peace be imposed by international statute rather than by a treaty which the German Government would be obliged to sign, took no part in the discussions. —United Press.

Hollywood Wants G.B.S.

New York, Feb. 15.

Mary Pickford says she would like George Bernard Shaw to visit Hollywood and personally watch transition of his outstanding plays, to the motion picture screen.

"I am anxious to travel to England before the end of this year and see Mr. Shaw, and to assure him that his plays made into Hollywood films will be returned to him in good condition," said the former star of the silent movies who is now a Hollywood producer.

"Perhaps I can lure him" to Hollywood to watch the shooting of his pictures.

Miss Pickford said that Artists Alliance, signed a contract with Gabriel Pascal, producer and director who represents Shaw in America, to bring Shaw plays to the American screen. —Associated Press.

Newsman Dine With The King

On the battleship Vanguard, Feb. 14.

King George and Queen Elizabeth, both wearing boiler suits, toured the engine and boiler rooms of the Vanguard today—nine metres below the surface of the ocean at a temperature of 36 degrees Centigrade.

They had to pass through the airlock which maintains the necessary high pressure.

Asked by Engineer Officers whether she could manage climbing, the Queen replied: "I will try." She then climbed nimbly the narrow perpendicular ladders.

Using dark glasses, the Queen watched the blazing fuel oil through the open furnace doors while the King discussed engines and boilers with an Engineer Officer.

A press party of two correspondents and one radio commentator and a film photographer and press photographer dined with the King, Queen and Princesses in the Royal apartments. —Reuter.

EXECUTED

Landsberg, Feb. 14.

Two American firing squads today executed five displaced persons—the first death sentences carried out by shooting in Germany since the end of the war.

The executed men were three Poles and two Greeks, who had been convicted by Military Government courts of armed

Police Boats Sunk By Haganah Frogmen

Jerusalem, Feb. 14.

The Haganah, most moderate of the three Jewish underground groups, announced today in a radio broadcast that it was responsible for the blowing up of two police launches in Haifa harbour yesterday.

The Haganah, which had been inactive for months, said: "Our frogmen, at great risk of their lives, completed the operation successfully."

"We have not gone out of business. We shall not see our brethren turned away from the gates of the promised land by the dictates of the White Paper and remain quiet. We struck at the very launch which turned away the 'Negev' (Jewish illegal immigrant ship) and other floating slums of the helpless refugees."

Meanwhile, counsel for the three Irgun members sentenced to death subject to the British GOCA confirmations met them today in Jerusalem prison. It was reported the condemned men told their lawyers they would under no circumstances sign a reprieve.

Officials speculated this might be the last Sabbath before imposition of martial law, especially since Irgun had threatened a "blood bath" in retaliation if the three men were sentenced. —United Press.

Robbery and murder. —United Press.

Son In Hong Kong, Couldn't Be There

London, Feb. 15.

William Radon Halman, 6ft. 10in., hired the village hall at Sunninghill, Berks, to celebrate his golden wedding and advise his family to have more children.

William, 77, and his wife, Gertrude, 72, have twelve children, fourteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

All were at the reunion except one son, who is with the RAF in Hong Kong.

Holding a great-grandchild, Mr. Halman told his family: "I want to see more of these."

He had to send cables, telegrams, telephone messages and letters to the Far East, Germany, Maidenhead, Tonbridge, Canterbury, Oxford and all over London to call the party together.

P.W.'s HELPED TO ESCAPE

London, Feb. 14.

Seven men appeared at Old Street, London, today accused of conspiracy to contravene the Defence Regulations by giving assistance to escaped prisoners of war.

When the case began only six men were present and after hearing lasting a few minutes, the case was adjourned for ten days.

Afterwards a seventh man was brought into court on a similar charge and was also remanded. —Reuter.

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THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS SECOND EXTRA RACE MEETING

Saturday, 22nd February 1947.

The first bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.

Through numbers (8 Races—\$16) may be obtained at the Office of the Treasurers, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, also tickets for the Special Cash Sweep (\$200) on the last race.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE. Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10.00 including tax are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a member, such member to be responsible for all chits, etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurers' Comptroller Office will close at 11 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tifans will be obtainable at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tie Tac Men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Passes for Servants will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY on application to the Secretary, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

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m.v. "Dona Nati"	7th. Apr.	New York
m.v. "Halland"	24th. Apr.	New York & Newport News
m.v. "Travancore"	26th. Apr.	San Francisco

DEPARTURES

Vessel	Date	For
s.s. "Cebu"	17th. Feb.	Manila & Cebu
m.v. "Dona Nati"	13th. Apr.	Pacific & Atlantic Coasts

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"FENGTIEN"	Shanghai 4 p.m. 17th Feb.
"HANYANG"	Shanghai 4 p.m. 18th Feb.
"NEWCHWANG"	Singapore & Penang 4 p.m. 20th Feb.
"SHENGKING"	Shanghai 4 p.m. 21st Feb.

ARRIVALS FROM

"NEWCHWANG"	Shanghai 18th Feb.
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Asia Rehabilitation
DisappointingH.K. Stock
Exchange

After a quiet week the market closed very steady with buyers gradually coming in for the more popular investment counters. Banks have firmed up to \$1500 buyers, and Jardine's Insurance shares are still wanted in spite of sales having taken place at \$450 for Chinese and \$122½ for Hongkong P&O.

Whampoa Docks have improved to \$18½ with buyers ready to take up scrip at this rate. Union Telephone had small sales reported at \$40. There is no enquiry for Hongkong Telephone at \$15½ for the Old and \$12½ for the New. H.K. Govt. Loans 4½. Lgap. 1946, 15½ (1934) 10½.

Bank 12½. Bank 12½. (Lan. Rec.) 13/16. American A/C Sterling 402-1/16. 402-1/16. American A/C Sterling 3 Months 97½. 402-1/16. On Sweden 27.81/16. 27.81/16. France 81½. Switzerland (Official) 54.00. 24.25. Switzerland (Free) 27.35. 27.44. Spain 2.25. Portugal 4.04. 4.06. Australia 3.22½. offered. New Zealand 3.25. South Africa 4.02½. Brazil 2.50. Africa 20.30 offered. India 30.22 offered. Shanghai 32.00. Argentina (Official) 20.71. Argentina (Free) 24.48 offered. Brazil 5.08 offered. Bolivia (Official) 2.25. Bolivia (Free) 2.50. Chile (Official) 6.60. Chile (Free) 3.25. 4.00. Cuba (Free) 4.00. Colombia 3.00. Ecuador 1.87 offered. Guatemala 1.00. Holland 17.55. 17.82. Mexico 20.57. 20.61. Peru 15.00 offered. Uruguay 55.00 offered. Venezuela 50.00 offered. Netherlands 32.00. Dutch Guilder 32.55. Montreal on New York 96.00. Swiss Bank Notes rate 27.00. 26.00. Belgium Franc 2.25 offered. Pound Note 210. 220. Paraguay 32.00. 32.75. -Reuter.

New York
Exchanges

New York, Feb. 14.
American A/C Sterling 402-1/16. 402-1/16. American A/C Sterling 3 Months 97½. 402-1/16. On Sweden 27.81/16. 27.81/16. France 81½. Switzerland (Official) 54.00. 24.25. Switzerland (Free) 27.35. 27.44. Spain 2.25. Portugal 4.04. 4.06. Australia 3.22½. offered. New Zealand 3.25. South Africa 4.02½. Brazil 2.50. Africa 20.30 offered. India 30.22 offered. Shanghai 32.00. Argentina (Official) 20.71. Argentina (Free) 24.48 offered. Brazil 5.08 offered. Bolivia (Official) 2.25. Bolivia (Free) 2.50. Chile (Official) 6.60. Chile (Free) 3.25. 4.00. Cuba (Free) 4.00. Colombia 3.00. Ecuador 1.87 offered. Guatemala 1.00. Holland 17.55. 17.82. Mexico 20.57. 20.61. Peru 15.00 offered. Uruguay 55.00 offered. Venezuela 50.00 offered. Netherlands 32.00. Dutch Guilder 32.55. Montreal on New York 96.00. Swiss Bank Notes rate 27.00. 26.00. Belgium Franc 2.25 offered. Pound Note 210. 220. Paraguay 32.00. 32.75. -Reuter.

London Stock
Market

London, Feb. 14.
Consol. 247½. 1946/7 90½. Govt. Loan 100. 100½. War Loan 100½. 100½. Victory Bonds 6½. 121. Savings Bonds 3½. 1952/55 106½. Savings Bonds 3½. 1957/60 107½. Savings Bonds 3½. 1962/65 108½. German Loan 7½. (Dawson) 13. Japanese Bonds 6½. 100. Canton-Kowloon Railway 21½. Tientsin Pukow Railway 6½. 25½. Lung Tai U. Hai Ry. 5½. 1015 22½. Sincere Loan 5½. 1213 London Loan 44. Crip Loan 5½. 1011-112. Hukans Railway 5½. 1011 21. Honan Railway 5½. 196 27½. Shanghai-Nanking Railway 25½. Marseilles Bank of India. "A" 25½. Hongkong Banking-Corp 94½. Lloyds Bank 100½. South Africa 20½. Selection Trust 11½. 1120. Gold. Har. per gramme, buyers 5.30. sellers 5.35. -Reuter.

LONDON SILVER
& GOLD

Silver, Ready, per 100 tolas 157 buyers.
12 Annas. Forward Mar. 7 western India 140. 12 Gold. Delivery, per tola 107. 04. Forward Mar. 104. 00. Sovereigns each 68. 12. Silver, New settlement (unofficial) 143. 10. -Reuter.

ARGENTINE GOLD

Buenos Aires, Feb. 14.
Sovereigns, buyers 55.50. sellers 56.00. U.S. \$20 Eagle, buyers 146.00. sellers 146.20. Gold, Har. per gramme, buyers 5.30. sellers 5.35. -Reuter.

The SWEDISH EAST ASIATIC Co., Ltd.

OUTWARDS FOR SHANGHAI

M.V. TONGHAIdischarging H.K. 26th Feb.

HOMEWARDS

M.V. FORMOSAloading Hong Kong 17th Feb.

PORT SAID, GENOA, MARSEILLES,
ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM, OSLO, COPENHAGEN and
GOTHENBURG.

For further particulars apply to:-

GILMAN & CO., LTD.

Agents, Telephone 27871.

STAN LINE

Sailing for VANCOUVER, SEATTLE,
PORTLAND AND SAN FRANCISCO:-

M.V. "STANHALL"Loading at H.K. about Feb. 26th.

CARGO TANKS FOR BULK OIL AVAILABLE

For freight and particulars apply to:-

WALLEM & CO., Agents.

Tel. 34177-9.

THE HO HONG STEAMSHIP CO. (1932) LTD.

S.S. "HONG SIANG" DUE TO ARRIVE FROM RANGOON
AND STRAITS 16TH FEB.

LOADING	SAILING
S.S. "HONG KHENG"	17th Feb.
S.S. "HONG SIANG"	23rd Feb.

FOR SINGAPORE AND PENANG

Subject to Alteration Without Notice

For Freight and Passage Particulars Apply:

THE HO HONG CO. (CHINA) LTD.

48a, Bonham Strand W. Tel. 26127 & 25646

KLAVENESS LINE

M.V. "GRANVILLE"

SAILING FOR VANCOUVER (DIRECT) THENCE SEATTLE
PORTLAND (ORE.) AND SAN FRANCISCO.

Leaving 10th March Due Vancouver 31st March
LIMITED PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION
TO VANCOUVER ONLY

CARGO TANKS FOR BULK OIL

For freight and further particulars apply to:-

THE BANK LINE (CHINA) LTD.

King's Building. Telephone 27791

N.Y. Stock
Exchange

New York, Feb. 14.
Late timid bidding stemmed another decline in the stock market, reducing early losses to fractions, but points and putting a number of leaders in the advancing division.
Closing prices were mixed.
Transfers were around 900,000—the smallest for the full session since late January.
Gainers included Gulf and West India, Republic Steel, Santa Fe, Woolworth, Douglas Aircraft, and Allied Chemical.
The Dow Jones average: 134.44.
Stocks 65.07, Industrials 134.44, 35 Rails 61.88, 10 Utilities 57.30.
Closing quotations:
Adams Express 18½. Alaska Juneau 2½. American Can 9½. American Smelting 38½. American Telephone 112½. American Tobacco 79½. American Waterworks 18½. Amstar 40½. Aviation Corporation 6½. Balfore locomotive 23½. Barnard 23½. Bendis Aviation 38½. Bethlehem Steel 36½. Boeing Aircraft 20½. Borden Co. 43. Canadian Pacific 15½. J. E. Case 27½. Chrysler 102½. Colgate 49½. Cpn. Products 73. Dupont 100. Eastman Kodak 22½. Electric Light & Power 18½. General Electric 39. General Motors 43½. Goodrich 62½. Goodyear 57½. International Harvester 21½. International Paper 27½. International Telephone & Tel. 17. Kennecott Copper 48½. Montgomery Ward 61½. National Lead 2½. National Builders 21½. New York Telephone 30½. Packard Motor 17½. Pan American Airways 13½. Pennsylvania RR 23½. Radio Corporation 104. Real Silk 17½. Republic Steel 20½. Reynolds Tobacco 42½. Schenley 48½. Sears Roebuck 37½. Shell Oil 21½. Socony Vacuum 14½. Southern Pacific 44½. Standard Brands 30½. Standard Oil of Calif. 68. Standard Oil of N.J. 67½. Studebaker 25½. Union Pacific 32½. United Gable 37½. U.S. Rubber 67½. U.S. Steel 77½. Westinghouse 28. Youngtown Sheet & Tube 32½. Greyhound 35½. Associated 17½.

The report, which is for the United Nations sub-commission concerned with the reconstruction of devastated areas, notes "in the devastated areas of Asia and the Far East there has not yet been that progress in rebuilding production and trade which the world requires."

"Such a recovery is a prerequisite for a sound world trade basis."

The pre-war economic and social situation in Asia, the report said, was one in which a thin veneer of industrial modernization only partially overlaid the ancient pre-industrial societies, and the living level of the mass of people was one of poverty.

"Today the need is for a new and much more rapid and comprehensive effort to modernize production methods throughout Asia and the Far East with the object of bringing the tools of modern technology within the reach of all people."

"This does not mean Asia should copy today's advanced countries in every aspect but that a fundamental transformation of the whole economy is required, sowing the seeds of industrialisation and development more from resources within the region."—Reuter.

BOMBAY SILVER
& GOLD

London, Feb. 14.
Silver, Spot, per fine oz. 44½. Forward per fine oz. 44½. Bar Gold, Fine, at 172½. London free market silver, per ounce exempt shipment 64. Mar. delivery London 61½. Apr. 60 pence. -Reuter.

JAVA - CHINA - JAPAN LUN N.Y.

King's Building, Connaught Road,
Tel: Shipping Dept. 26015. Passage Dept. 26617.

Chinese Agents, Connaught Road, C. No. 32, Tel. 26133.

Ship due from Japan 30th March

S.S. "TJIBADAK" Amoy early April

Singapore/Batavia.

ROYAL PACKET NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(ORIENT JAVA AFRICA LINE).

Ship due from Shanghai 1st March

m.s. "RUYS" In port Reconditioning in Dock

Shipping for 28th and March 8th for

Singapore, Mauritius, Leeward Islands, Java, Siam, Ceylon, Colombo, Port Elizabeth, Mozambique, Capetown, Durban, Natal, Montevideo, Santos, Rio de Janeiro.

Cargo accepted on through bill of lading to Dar-es-Salaam, Zanzibar, and Mombasa.

m.s. "TEGELBERG" Batavia and Feb. Reconditioning in Dock

SILVER LINE LTD.

Ship due from New York & Shanghai 18th February

m.v. "HOPEPEAK" Atlantic ports via Suez, loading on or about 15th February.

m.s. "SILVERASH" East Coast Africa, middle March

m.v. "SILVERWALNUT" South Africa, early April

Philippines/Java, Straits/Colombo and U.S. Atlantic ports via Suez, loading late March.

Philippines/Straits/Colombo/U.S. Atlantic ports.

HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Ship due from Shanghai Middle March

s.s. "HELENIC" Middle March

Singapore/Colombo/Port Said/Antwerp/Rotterdam/Amsterdam/Copenhagen/Göteborg/Oslo. Middle March.

s.s. "THORBECKE" Rotterdam/Antwerp/Port Said/Batavia/Singapore/Manila First half Mar. Proceeding to Shanghai

Singapore/Colombo/Port Said/Antwerp/Rotterdam/Amsterdam/Copenhagen/Göteborg/Oslo. Second half April.

m.s. "BREDERO" Europe and March

Singapore/Colombo/Port Said/Antwerp/Rotterdam/Amsterdam/Copenhagen/Göteborg/Oslo. First half May.

PACIFIC ORIENT EXPRESS LINE

Sailing from SHANGHAI, HONGKONG, MANILA direct to SAN FRANCISCO and PACIFIC COAST PORTS

Loading Hongkong (if sufficient inducement)

M.V. "VINGNES" 1st February

M.V. "MONGABARRA" 1st March

M.V. "VITO" 1st April

M.V. "MANGARELLA" 1st May

Vessels equipped with bulk oil storage facilities.

Cargo and Passengers apply:-

MOLLERS' (HONGKONG) LTD. Agents

Queen's Building Tel. 61136 2nd floor

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

SHIPPING DEPARTMENT
16 Pedder Street
Tel. 30311.

General Managers.

INDO-CHINA S. N. CO., LTD.

SAILINGS

S.S. "WINGSANG" to Shanghai and Keelung 4 p.m. 17th Feb.
S.S. "MAUSANG" for Shanghai 22nd Feb.
S.S. "ESANG" to Straits and Calcutta 25th Feb.
S.S. "WOSANG" to Straits & Calcutta 4th March.
S.S. "HINSANG" to Sandakan 6th March.

ARRIVALS

S.S. "MAUSANG" from Calcutta & Sandakan, Singapore 18th Feb.
S.S. "ESANG" from Singapore & Penang 21st Feb.
S.S. "LOKSANG" from Kobe (Japan) 20th Feb.
S.S. "HINSANG" from Sandakan 26th Feb.
S.S. "WOSANG" from Shanghai & Keelung 27th Feb.
S.S. "TINGSANG" from Singapore 27th Feb.

Subject to alteration without notice.

All intending Passengers are requested to register their names as far as possible in advance of the time at which they wish to leave.

Agents: GLEN LINE LTD.

S.S. "SAMWYE" due from U.K. 20th Feb.
S.S. "FORT LOUISBOURG" due from U.K. 2nd March.
M.V. "GLENBEG" Loads for Amsterdam Rotterdam, Antwerp and London 19th Feb. Sails about 26th Feb.

Managing Agents:

AUSTRALIA CHINA LINE

M.V. HINDUSTAN due from Australia End Feb.

Agents: THE WESTERN CANADA
STEAMSHIPS LTD.

S.S. "LAKE CHELLIWACK" due from Vancouver 17th Feb. Accepts Cargo for Takao Tsingtao and Vancouver. Sailing about 20th Feb.



PRINCE LINE

U.S.A. PACIFIC COAST

FAR EAST-HALIFAX-BOSTON-NEW YORK

M.V. "ENGLISH PRINCE"

LOADING NEW YORK, NEWPORT NEWS, HOUSTON
LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO FOR MANILA, SHANGHAI, HONG KONG AND SINGAPORE.

DUE HONG KONG EARLY APRIL.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

Tel. 30311

Chinese Freight Agents:- CHEONG FAT CO.

54, Bonham Strand. Telephone 20087

Pacific Transport Lines Inc.

REGULAR SERVICE WITH FAST MODERN FREIGHTERS
BETWEEN PACIFIC COAST PORTS, SHANGHAI & HONGKONG

S.S. "LINFIELD VICTORY"

Due from Pacific Coast via Manila early March
Loads for San Francisco & Los Angeles mid March

FOR FULL PARTICULARS APPLY TO:-

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

16 Pedder Street. Telephone 30311.

CHINESE DEPT 31458

Peninsular & Oriental S. N. Co.

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DUE
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"AMMLA" U.K. 20th Feb.
"TREWIDEN" U.K. 21st Feb.
"RANCHI" U.K.

